



REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01738 9872

GENEALOGY

974.5

B644

1883-1884



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2013

<http://archive.org/details/booknotesv1prov>

BOOK NOTES

FOR THE WEEK,

CONSISTING OF

LITERARY GOSSIP, CRITICISMS OF BOOKS AND
LOCAL HISTORICAL MATTERS CONNECTED
WITH RHODE ISLAND.

VOL. I.

APRIL, 1883, TO APRIL, 1884.

PROVIDENCE
SIDNEY S. RIDER.
1884.

Y 699580

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL TRACTS.

THE publisher of these BOOK NOTES has for several years been engaged in publishing a series of short historical treatises concerning men and things in Rhode Island, under the above general title. Nineteen of these Tracts have been issued and the Twentieth is nearly ready for publication. It is the publisher's intention to close the series with the twentieth Tract, to call it the first series, and to begin a second series as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers indicate a desire to take it. The support given to the issue thus far has been most flattering. The names of several of the best historical scholars in Rhode Island appear on its list of authors, and the high prices which numbers have attained, are a fair indication of the value in which they are held by those who delight in such literature;—250 copies of each number have been printed and no more; no more will be printed, so that those parties who own sets of the first series may be assured that the value of their sets will not be impaired, by a re-issue.

16780
20

AN INDEX OF LOCAL HISTORICAL MATTERS

Concerning Rhode Island, together with a few other things which have appeared in the BOOK NOTES during its first year. The figures refer to the number of the issue:

ALPHABET, The Origin and History of.....	8	FUNNY Blunders in Advertising.....	17
AMERICA, The Lost Histories of.....	19	GARDNER'S Histories of English Epochs.....	10, 11
ANNAWON'S Rock, Historical References to.....	24	GEOLOGY of Rhode Island.....	22, 29
ANDREWS' Lectures on History at Brown University.....	29	HARRIS, George. Sermons.....	5
ANIMATED Names for Tools and Machines.....	25	HESSIANS (in Rhode Island) in the War of Revolution.....	26
ANTI-TOBACCO, a Review.....	15	HOLBROOK, Albert. Letter about Whale.....	28
ARNOLD, Rev. Dr. A. N., Sermons in Greek.....	25	HOPPIN, Augustus. The Fashionable Sufferer.....	5
" " Place of Birth.....	27	IRINE, W. History of Rome.....	16
ARTESIAN Wells bored in Providence, 1828.....	14	IMPRESSMENT of Seamen Resisted by R. I. in 1794.....	7, 28
BACROFT on Charter Government in R. I.....	17	INSURANCE Company. The first one in Providence.....	13
BARBERY Bushes, Law to Destroy in R. I.....	18	LINCOLN, A. Letter to Gen. Hooker.....	6
BENTLEY on the Epistles of Phalaris.....	3	MARKET Regulations in Providence in 1786.....	23
BLIND Leaders of the Blind.....	3	MARRIAGES, Curious, Shiftless ones in R. I.....	4, 6
BOXFIRES in R. I. on Guy Fawkes Day.....	18	MCMASTER, J. B. Criticisms of his History.....	8, 9, 11, 12
BOOK Lovers' Enchiridion.....	13	METCALF, Betsey. Did She invent Straw Bonnets.....	2
BOSWELL'S Johnson, Napier's edition.....	27	METCALF, Richard. Memoir.....	15
BOSWORTH, Alfred, Anecdote of.....	5	NAMES. Sundry, Curious Things.....	2, 9, 26, 29, 25
BREAD, Law in R. I., concerning weight and price.....	9	NARRAGANSETT Family. Anecdote of, by St. John.....	6
BRISTOL, R. I., Palace of the King of Spain in.....	3	NAUTILUS, The Case of the British Ship, at Newport.....	7
BROOKS, Charles T., Translation of the Invisible Lodge.....	9	NEWELL, Dr. Timothy. His Public Park Addresses.....	5
BROWN, W. J., (colored), Life of Himself.....	14	NEWPORT Aquarelle, (A). Key to the Characters.....	10, 12
BUCHANAN, James, Mr. Curtis's Memoirs.....	9	NEWPORT, Cages built to hold Slaves at Night.....	18
BURNSIDE, A. E., Gen., President Lincoln's Letter.....	6	NEWPORT, The Case of the Nautilus at.....	7
CANONICUS, The Memorial Stone.....	12-23	NEWPORT, Description of in Dr. Claudius.....	5
CHAMPLIN, J. D., Jr., Cyclopedias for the Young.....	21	NINE Men's Misery. Historical References to.....	24, 27
CINCINNATI, the Society of, Did R. I. Disfranchise.....	8	NUTS for Antiquaries.....	14
CLARK, Bishop T. M. His Convention Sermon.....	15	OCCULT World, (The), a Review.....	22
CLARK, McDonald, Memoirs of in Providence.....	24	OUR French Allies, by E. M. Stone, a Review.....	23
COLLYER, Beauties of.....	16	PACKARD, A. S., Jr. His Books on Insects.....	15
CONGDON, Trial for Murder of Wilcox.....	29	PAINE, Amaranthy. Review of her Life.....	15
COTTON Gin, Did the Wife of Gen. Nath. Greene invent.....	2	PIERCE'S Fight with the Indians near Pawtucket, Historical references to.....	24
CREVECOEUR, Hector St. John, Letters referring to R. I.....	3	POTTS, Rev. J. F. Letters concerning Providence.....	22
DALE, T. N. Geology of R. I.....	22-29	PROVIDENCE. Letters of Mr. Potts descriptive of.....	22
DEWEY, Rev. Dr. Orville, Anecdote of John Whipple.....	20	PROVIDENCE. Artesian Wells bored in 1828.....	14
DEGENERACY of the Times, as Exhibited in Wickford.....	14	PROVIDENCE. Printing of Early Records, urged.....	29
DUFFEE, Thomas. Gleanings from Judicial History.....	5	PROVIDENCE. Emblematic Signs in.....	13
EMBLEMATIC Signs in Providence.....	13		
FOSTER, W. E. Libraries and Readers.....	1		
FULLER, Margaret. School on Greene St., Providence.....	8, 10, 11, 15		

PROVIDENCE. Old (1786) [Market Regulations].....	23	SCHLIEMANN'S Successful Hunt for Troy.....	21, 24
PROVIDENCE. Shows our Grandfathers Attended.....	27	SHEFFIELD, W. P. Address on R. I. Privateers.....	9
PROVIDENCE. First Insurance Company in	13	SHOWS in Providence our Grandfathers Attended.....	27, 28
PROVIDENCE. Genuineness of Original Deed Defended.....	23	SIX Centuries of Work and Wages in England.....	28
PUNCTUATION, The Uses of, with examples	27	SOLOMAN Girder, Second-Hand Bookseller	17
RHODE ISLAND Protects Home Labor.....	9	SUDAN, Why we say "In the Soudan.".....	22, 24
RHODE ISLAND. A Monumental History..	12	ST. JOHN, Hector. Letters from America, (R. I.).....	3, 6
RHODE ISLAND Almanac. (Stockwell's, 1881).....	23	STEAMBOATS and Stages in 1839 at Providence.....	11
RHODE ISLAND. Bancroft on the Charter Government.....	17	STONE, E. M. Our French Allies.....	23
RHODE ISLAND. Barbary Bushes unlawful	18	STRAW Bonnets, Who first made in R. I. . .	2
RHODE ISLAND. Guy Fawkes Bonfires Prohibited.....	18	SUBJECTS for Essays in the Schools.....	24
RHODE ISLAND. Cages to hold Slaves in Newport.....	13	TRAVELLING from New York to Boston in 1832.....	11
RHODE ISLAND. Shiftless Marriages.....	4, 6	THURLOW, A. Autobiography and Value of Advice.....	16
RHODE ISLAND. Dale's Geology.....	22, 29	UMBRELLA, History of the, by Mrs. E. A. Hall.....	6
RHODE ISLAND. Defence of, Against McMaster.....	8, 9, 11, 12	VIRGIL. Translation of, by E. Richardson	19
RHODE ISLAND. First State to Resist Impressment.....	7	WAYLAND, Francis. Number of His Publications.....	21
RHODE ISLAND. General Assembly Omnipotent.....	6	WHALE Captured in Narragansett Bay, 1828.....	27, 28, 29
RHODE ISLAND. General Assembly Divided itself.....	8	WHEELER, Richard A. His Pequot Histories.....	28
RHODE ISLAND. Laws Regulating Bread.	9	WHIPPLE, John. Anecdote of.....	20
RHODE ISLAND. Suggestions as to Origin of Name.....	4	WICKFORD and One Journey thither.....	14
RHODE ISLAND Privateers, by W. P. Sheffield.....	9	WILLIAMS, Roger. Historical References to Landing.....	24
RHODE ISLAND. Religious Toleration....	6	WILLIAMS, Thomas. His Publications....	21
RICHARDSON, E. Translation of Virgil....	10	WORDS. A Study of Rhode Island.....	9
ROBERT, The Hermit, date of death.....	13	WORK, J. H. His Ticket Selling at Whale Show.....	29

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1883.

No. 1.

Mr. Rider in the following paragraphs desires to call attention to certain works which he wishes to sell and which he thinks it would be well for people to buy.

The Letters of Jane Welsh Carlyle:

Mr. Scribner has reprinted these Letters of Mrs. Carlyle in two handsome octavo volumes. Hitherto the great English letter writers were by general consent, Horace Walpole and Lady Montague—to these we must add the name of Robert Burns, who, had he not become celebrated as a poet, would have certainly taken front rank as a writer of letters. If we mistake not, these letters of Jane Carlyle's will go down to future generations side by side with these writers. Many of her letters were written to friends of Carlyle, but by far the greater number were written to Carlyle himself, whose frequent absence from home presented opportunity for correspondence, a recent writer describing them says, every sentence is sharply cut and stamped with the impress of a strong individuality, displaying a keen bright affectionate nature, gay, witty, sarcastic, tender, pathetic or passionate by turns. They are such letters as only a woman could write, and they form a picture, which for graphic power strong human interest, and self-effacing devotion, it would be hard to match in all the annals of literature. Nothing in literature with which the name of Carlyle is connected will hold its place beside these admirable letters.

Mr. W. E. Foster's Libraries and Readers:

It was a happy thought in Mr. Leypoldt to have Mr. Foster, the Librarian of our Public Library, gather his scattered essays and addresses and print them in a little book. Each has done the other, and both together have done the public a service. There was never it seems to me, a Librarian who was in closer contact with the people who use his books than is Mr. Foster. This enables him quickly to discern faults and to suggest remedies, he sees how the people grope about for lack of method, and he rushes to their assistance with quickness and precision. His little book is brim full of ideas. It will make a good reader a better reader, and a bad one it will reconstruct altogether.

Haydn's Dictionary of Dates:

It is difficult to conceive of a more useful book of reference in the household than this. It is no new untried invention, for the one to which we now call attention is the 17th edition. It brings the history of the world down to the close of the year 1881. It is the English book which has long been famous, revised by correcting all errors in American matters and enlarged by the addition of every thing which one would naturally expect to find in such a book, relating to American affairs. It now forms by far the best edition. Formerly it was issued under two indexes, now it is issued under a single index, which alone is sufficient to warrant a new edition. It is a thoroughly good book.

The Friendships of Miss Mitford:

As set forth in the familiar letters between friends covering a period of fifty years, the first half of the present century. Here are letters from most of the men and women of literature during that time. It is from such sources as these, rather than from stately biographies, that we learn the real thoughts and actions of people; how the Empress Eugenie would go out at St. Cloud and shoot thirty brace of pheasants before breakfast; how angry Agnes Strickland was with her publishers because they could not make her novel the "Pilgrim of Walsingham" sell,—poor fellows! it wasn't their fault,—but to the writer personally, there is a more curious fact than these, it is a very commendatory notice written by Mary Howitt, of Robert Nichols's Poems which she says is "a right-mannily and sterling volume of poetry" and that "it is such writing as this which makes one feel that talent is nobler than birth and high mindedness more worth than gold." The singular part of this, is that here in Providence was published an edition of these admirable poems—the writer was reader for the proof corrector, not ten copies of the book were ever sold—where they went no one can tell, there must be such a thing as transmigration of souls in books.

John Sell Cotman's Etchings:

The architectural antiquities of Norfolk, a series of etchings of the most remarkable remains in that county, the descriptive notice of which were written by Dawson Turner, and which were greatly enlarged by Thomas Rowlandson, the whole in folio and illustrated with more than two hundred plates etched most beautifully by Mr. Cotman upon copper. The work is not now in print and copies are met at every day occurrence. The present one is an excellent fine one and will be sold at the extremely low price of \$45.00.

Mr. Rider receives subscriptions to all the English and American magazines, and delivers them at the residences of subscribers.

At Home in Fiji:

This book is written by a daughter of Gordon Cumming, who was first among the modern school of hunters in South Africa. Miss Cumming having an opportunity to go to this distant, and practically unknown island, under the auspices of the British Government, lived there some years following 1875. She writes easily and well, and is withal somewhat of an artist. Moreover she has an abundance of English pluck, a characteristic which Miss Bird, Mrs. Brassey, and other modern Englishwomen have so well exemplified, and as she wandered about the cannibal island she made sketches and notes, and here they are in a book. She tells us more in this little book about these singular beings (for they are not people) than all the books ever before written. A wonderful change must certainly have taken place in the inhabitants—who as she says were two years ago cannibals—where now she walks among them unmolested. Now they chiefly sing the songs of the Methodists, and refuse to go a fishing on Sunday; where within a year the chief could not build a hut without burying a man alive at each corner post.

Rhode Island Historical Tracts, The Coming Numbers:

It is the intention of the publisher to close the first series of these tracts with the twentieth number. The eighteenth tract is now passing through the press. The nineteenth tract will be upon Stephen Hopkins. It is written by Mr. W. E. Foster of the Providence Public Library. Mr. Hopkins was one of the ablest men who ever lived in Rhode Island, and it is humiliating that there has heretofore been no good account of him. However much we may regret this, we can now rejoice that the task has fallen into the hands of so accomplished a scholar, and such an indefatigable worker as Mr. Foster. The historical gleaner who follows this gentleman will indeed find dry pickings. To the paper which Mr. Foster read recently he has added very much material, fully four times the amount. It promises to be one of the most valuable tracts in the series.

It is the intention of the publisher to begin a second series of these Tracts as soon as the first series is finished.

New Fancy Ball Costumes:

Fancy Dresses Described, or what to wear at Fancy Balls, (with beautifully colored plates), one of which is the "Hornet," worn recently at the Vanderbilt reception, another the "Invincible," was doubtless made for a daughter of Uncle Sam.

Times of Gustaf Adolph:

There are few peoples in the whole world about whom our American people are more ignorant than about the Swedes. It was therefore a happy thought in an American publisher to have translations made of several Swedish historical romances written by Prof. Topelius, of Finland. The first of these Surgeon's stories, as he calls them, treats of Gustavus Adolphus. While the facts related are sufficiently exciting, they are strictly historical, and by weaving a web of fiction between them, the Professor is able to introduce a great many things illustrative of the dress, manners and domestic life of the people which will be altogether new to us, and most instructive withal. Following this story will come Queen Christina, Charles the Twelfth, Frederick Adolf, Princess of Wasa, and Gustaf Third, each in a volume.

Hare's Cities of Southern Italy:

It will be welcome announcement to many people that a new book about Italy, by Mr. Hare, has just been published. Hitherto Mr. Hare has travelled around Rome, and through the cities of northern and central Italy, now he leads us through the cities of southern Italy, Naples, and the towns east and west of Naples, occupy nearly one-half his work, which closes with a most interesting account of the principal cities of Sicily, Palermo among the rest. The book contains a large number of small wood cut illustrations embedded in the text, placed there to please and instruct the reader, and both ends are accomplished. Mr. Hare, aside from these works of travel, is well known as the author of the *Memoir of the Baroness Bunsen*.

Memoir of Annie Keary:

This is a sister's book about her departed sister. Annie Keary was an English gentlewoman—a writer of books, some of them exceedingly good ones. Among those best known to American readers are "A Doubting Heart," "Janet's Home," "Castle Daly," "Clemency Franklyn." Besides these she wrote many others. She was not a rapid writer, but she was a very careful one; she did nothing for effect. All her writings are pervaded by a profoundly religious sentiment, and wherever they have found readers their author has found warm friends. Her sister's story is a model of brevity; it tells the simple story of her life, and then stops; and that is the way in which all such books should be written. It is altogether a healthful, pleasing biography.

The Navy in the Civil War,

is the name which Mr. Scribner gives to his new series of books about the Rebellion. The initial volume is Mr. Soley's *Blockade and the Cruisers*. The second volume will be Admiral Ammen's "Atlantic Coast," and the third will be the "Gulf and Inland Waters" by Commander Mahan. The entire series are excellent books, by far the best yet published relating to the Rebellion.

Mr. Rider urges everybody who takes magazines to have them bound. A magazine which is not worth binding is not worth taking. Mr. Rider does every kind of book binding.

Shakspeare as put forth in 1623 :

A reprint of Mr. William Shakspeare's Comedies, Histories and Tragedies, published according to the true originall copies. London, 1623. Reprint, 1861. 4to. half mor. \$8.50.

The writing of this paragraph awakens sad memories. The writer has in former years brought to Providence and placed in Private Libraries here two complete sets of the *first four folios*, and four complete sets of the Halliwell folio, but very few years have elapsed, and yet but a single set of either remains in the city, and that set will depart during the coming summer to be sold in New York City. This is a public calamity. To consult this source of English Literature one will be obliged to go to Boston. The aggregate sum which these six sets of Shakspeare realized to the writer was six thousand dollars, and to-day one of these will sell for more than one-half that sum,

"Waifs and Strays from the Far East:"

A most learned book about the Chinese People is "Waifs and Strays from the Far East," by F. H. Balfour. No possible idea of the character of this book can be obtained from its title. It was the same with the "Peak of Darien," which book many people suppose relates to the "Isthmus." Mr. Balfour's Waifs is really a series of Essays about the Chinese people, the titles of some of the essays will more clearly express their character. The Secret Societies and their Political Significance; The Armaments of China; Legendary Corea; The Invasions of the Japanese; The Rival Evangelizers of China; Chinese Views of Foreign Culture; Astrology; A Chinese Munchausen; Chinese Domestic Romance. This last chapter by a series of most interesting true stories sets forth the real domestic life of these strange secluded people.

Japanese Architecture:

Japan, its Architecture, Art and Art Manufactures, by Christopher Dresser, is a really beautiful and most instructive book about this most interesting country. It contains upwards of two hundred illustrations, some of them native drawings of workmen such as carpenters, stone cutters, bricklayers engaged in their various occupations. They are very curious indeed.

Brooklyn Bridge in the May Har- per:

This structure, of such immense magnitude that were we not familiar with it we should travel great distances to see it, is rapidly approaching completion. A splendidly illustrated article in the May Harper is both timely and valuable.

The Coronation of the Czar:

The wide interest taken in this approaching ceremony will direct the attention of every civilized country toward Russia. There could be no better time to learn something about this immense country than upon such an occasion. It was therefore well that the Messrs. Nelson published the account of the Russian Empire, written by Mr. John Geddle. This writer endeavors to draw from the past history of this ill-governed nation, the causes of her present troubles, and a forecast of her future greatness. The book is beautifully printed with large, clear type, and contains admirable maps and a good index, and is, without, sold at a small price.

The American Magazines in Eng- land:

Harper's Magazine, The Century and St. Nich-olas are exported in large numbers to England every month, and if Blackwood's Magazine is an authority, they are very popular, largely read, and the experiment of sending them a decided success. Only last week the "Spectator," a leading English weekly, stated broadly that a re-modelling of the English government after our Republican pattern would follow the Queen's death. Thus the mother country reads and delights in American literature and is ready to adopt some of our American notions in government. All the Reviews and Magazines which are herein mentioned are supplied by Mr. Rider.

Shadow of the Pyrenees:

The Rev. Dr. Martin Vincent has just issued, through the house of Charles Scribner's Sons, a book of Travels in the remote regions of southwestern France, and northwestern Spain. The title, "In the Shadow of the Pyrenees from Basque-land to Carcassonne," can, with the assistance of the beautiful maps in the book, be readily understood. The journey extended from the city of Bayonne, which we had before heard of, to Carcassonne, which we had not before heard of, but which we have now discovered to be a very ancient city lying among the peaks of the Pyrenees nearly on the confines of Spain. This picturesque old town Dr. Vincent gives a most interesting description of, comprised in many pages. The volume contains four exquisite etchings, two by Smille, one by Swayne Gifford, and one by Leroy M. Tale. The get up of the book is certainly excellent.

Lette alle ye scholares walke thys waye.

A Curious Old Dictionary:

A General Biographical Dictionary of the Lives and Writings of the most Eminent Persons in every nation, by William Owen and William Johnston. 12 vols., 8vo. calf, \$12.00. This book abounds with literary information and anecdote not met with usually in books of its class; it is well worth owning. One of the most extraordinary characters in it is George Psalmanazar, a literary impostor and a wonderful man.

Miss Burney's Works:

The works of Miss Burney, comprising *Evelina*, 3v., *Camilla*, 5 v., *Cecilia*, 5 v., and *The Wanderer*, 5 v.,—in all 18 v., 12 mo., $\frac{1}{2}$ red Turkey morocco, \$35.00.

There is no uniform edition of the writings of Miss Burney; this copy is what is known as a made-up set of her books as issued.

Chatterton:

The works of Chatterton, (the wondrous boy who perished in his pride,) best edition, with the *Life*, by Gregory, 3 vols. Russia, \$18.00.

A Curious Historical Dictionary:

Ladvoeat's Historical and Biographical Dictionary of Hebrew Patriarchs and Princes, Emperors, Kings and Great Captains, Gods and Heroes of Pagan antiquity. Translated from the French by Catharine Collignon, 4 v., calf, \$5.00. There is a perfect mine of amusement in these old books for those who know how to extract it.

German Culture:

German Culture and Christianity, their controversy in the time 1770-1880, by Joseph Gostwick, London, 1882. "This book intends to tell the whole story of the movement which began in deism and ended in atheism."

Socrates:

Socrates, a translation of the *Apology*, *Crito*, and parts of the *Phaedo* of Plato. "There can no evil befall a good man whether he be alive or dead." 12mo. paper, 50.

Von Reber's Art History:

A History of Ancient Art, by Von Reber, translated by Clarke, is the best of the smaller treatises on this, at present, popular subject. It contains 310 illustrations and a Glossary of Technical Terms which is worth the price of the book.

Lives of Famous Women:

George Eliot (a biography) is the first of the series of memoirs of Famous Women. Emily Bronte and Jane Austen are the next to follow.

Burke:

Works of Edmund Burke, The best English edition, published by Rivington, 1852. 8 vols., 8vo. cloth, uncut, \$30.00.

Hawkesworth's Swift:

Works of Dean Swift, Hawkesworth's edition, 24 vols., $\frac{1}{2}$ calf, \$20.00.

Plato's Atlantis Not a Myth:

Seven editions of Ignatius Donnelly's book, "Atlantis, or the Antediluvian World," have been published by the Harpers. This shows the general interest in the speculations of Mr. Donnelly. Think as we may in regard to the conclusions at which the author arrives, all must be impressed by the immense array of facts which his industry has accumulated.

Among the English papers for which Mr. Rider receives subscriptions, is the "Spectator." This has been looked upon as one of the most liberal of the solid English weekly papers. It closes a leader this week on the Queen's sorrow for the death of her confidential servant, John Brown, with this extraordinary sentence: "We are no devotees of Monarchy, gravely holding self-government to be more educative and more dignified, but there has never been in history a reign like that of Queen Victoria, who, surrounded by an impenetrable etiquette, breaks it to tell her people that devotion even in the humblest of followers has roused in her, 'real friendship.' Republicanism in England sleeps, and will sleep while the Queen reigns. Is there not in that mere truism a sufficient biography?"

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1883.

No. 2.

The object of publishing these little Book Notes is to enable the publisher to sell more books. He has for sale all the books he notices, and none of them are bad. Nobody will be any the worse by buying and reading them.

NOTEWORTHY NEW BOOKS.

Sir Henry Maine's new book consists of *Dissertations on Early Law and Customs*. Among the chapter headings are "Ancestor Worship," "Religion and the Law of Inheritance," "Home Communities," "Classifications of Property." These titles clearly indicate a discussion of the principles of inheritance, and the close connection between the lines of descent as prescribed by the ancient prevailing religions, and those laid down in the laws of more recent periods. All Mr. Maine's former books have been much sought for by first class readers, and this new one will doubtless take rank with its predecessors. The elegant get up of the book is creditable to the house of Holt & Co.

Mr. Edward A. Freeman's book on America comprises the four magazine articles which he wrote, and which he has now very much enlarged. They are filled with the drollest things imaginable. How large a volume it would require to hold the opinions which the Americans have expressed of Mr. Freeman, would be an interesting calculation.

The second of the *Three Great Periods in Christian History* which Mr. Joseph Henry Allen proposed to write, is published. It covers the "Middle Ages." It discourses of the work of Hildebrand, of the Crusades, of Feudal Society, of the growth of Religious Orders, of Religious Art, and of the Pagan Revival.

The *indexed Webster's Dictionary* is a great improvement over those without it. The recent edition of this favorite dictionary has two great changes over former editions. First, in the addition of some seven thousand words, which have come into use within the last twenty years. And second, the great improvement in the biographical portion. A fresh supply of all varieties Mr. Rider has just in.

No New Thing, is the name of Mr. W. E. Norris's new novel. It is issued in both the "Leisure Hour" and "Franklin Square" series. It is too early for us to say that it is good. But we can say that both the former books, viz.: "Marri-mony" and "Heaps of Money," were superior books. There is no great risk in buying this, on their reputation.

In the *Games and Songs of American children*, we have a child's book for grown folks. This is an entirely new field of inquiry. It is a scientific investigation of the origin of these familiar things, and will interest any one who took real pleasure in the sports of his childhood.

"On the Threshold," by Mr. Munger, had an immense sale. Now we have a new book by this same writer. He calls it the *Freedom of Faith*. The name at all events keeps step with the spirit of the times. It will have a great many readers.

The *Cruise of the Canoe Club* adds another to the excellent yachting books (if we may so call them) which Messrs. Harper have from time to time recently published for children's use. Another is the "Moral Pirates," and still another is the "Cruise of the Ghost."

In the *English Men of Letters* series we have a new volume, the *Memoir of Fielding*, by Mr. Austin Dobson. In it we learn how Joseph Andrews and Tom Jones and Amelia, came to have an existence.

Who first made Straw Bonnets in Rhode Island?

The North American Review for May, in an article on Woman as an inventor, has reference to two Rhode Island ladies of some interest. The first refers to Miss Betsey Metcalf, who the writer alleges made the first straw bonnet ever manufactured in this country. There was published in Providence, in 1825, "An Essay on the manufacture of Straw Bonnets," containing an historical account of the introduction of the manufacture." This writer says: "About the year 1797 straw bonnets were first manufactured in New England. To Mrs. Naomi Whipple is due the credit of introducing the manufacture. * * * She was in the habit of receiving consignments of bonnets from a merchant in New York. * * * At length she conceived the idea of manufacturing bonnets herself. * * * She procured some straw and sent for a young lady in the neighborhood (Miss Hannah Metcalf), and they made the attempt, * * * and soon found themselves successful." These statements appear in this little book printed in Providence in 1825, only *twenty-eight years* after the events took place. Thirty years later, or fifty-eight years after the event, in the Transactions of the Rhode Island Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Industry for 1855, p. 159, there appeared a letter from Mrs. Betsey Baker, which says, in effect, that the writer was Betsey Metcalf; that she was the person who discovered the art of making straw bonnets, that she taught her neighbors, and that the industry spread through the neighboring towns. That Hannah Metcalf had nothing whatever to do in the matter, nor indeed had Mrs. Whipple, of whom she makes no mention, but to the writer alone (Mrs. Baker) the whole credit is due. In the face of such conflicting statements how are we to know the truth? For this North American Review, or for any other magazine, Mr. Rider would be glad to take subscribers.

Miss Yonge's "Stray Pearls:"

This is a historical romance, where Margaret de Ribamont, Viscountess of Bellaire, is the leading character. The scene is laid in France, and the times are the times of the "Fronde." In a preface Miss Yonge has written an admirable account of the origin and circumstances of the "Fronde." We recall no such succinct and well written account. This alone is worth all we ask for the pamphlet, for it is one of Harper's Franklin Squares. Among the later issues of this excellent series are some excellent stories, among them our old friend, "Mary Barton," by Mrs. Gaskell. Mary made her debut when we were a bookseller's errand boy, and from that day even until now, many good people have desired to make her acquaintance.

Who Wrote It? A Handy Book:

No one book contains the sum of human wisdom. To answer every question one must have every book. This is out of the question; but because we cannot have every book it does not follow that we should not have some books. Try to get those books which will answer as many questions as possible. One of the best books in this way is Mr. Wheeler's *Who Wrote It?* This little book will answer hundreds of our questions. The article on "Junius" is most valuable, but it would have been more so had Mr. Wheeler referred us to that masterpiece of historic investigation by Messrs. Chabot and Twistleton into this matter. Their book was published in 1871 by Mr. John Murray, and practically settles this much-inquired into question. Mr. Wheeler should make a note of it in his new editions. There is another name which we looked for and did not find; but perhaps it more properly belongs in Halkett & Laing's Dictionary. It was as to the authorship of "Aurifodina." The title page said it was by Cantell A. Bigly (can tell a big lie). The book was about California, published by D. Appleton & Co., about 1850.

Stormonth's Dictionary:

A Dictionary which has passed through six editions in England, almost before the name of its author becomes known to us in America. About which the staid old "Westminster" wildly says, "it is especially good and sound, in fact admirable," and the respectable and decent "Notes and Queries," that notwithstanding all the dictionaries a man may have, he should have this one at all events. Now we say that a Dictionary which has met with such a reception at home, deserves our attention. Moreover the "School Board Chronicle" assures us that it is the "very model of a Dictionary," "that it will not fail us at a pinch," "it is indeed a little library of reference." Many more high encomiums of this excellent little book Mr. Rider might hunt up, but they all point one way. The book is excellent.

Mr. Caldecott's New Sketch Book:

The making of books for children is altogether a modern idea. In no other art has more rapid progress been made than in this art, and no one book yet produced more clearly illustrates this rapid progress, than does this new Sketch Book of Mr. Caldecott's. It is not pretty, in the sense we use the term in speaking of the pictures by Miss Greenaway. It is far more than that; it is a work of genius. It is well suited to be studied and enjoyed by men and women of sense and cultivation, and the more abundantly they are supplied with these two latter qualities, the more they will admire this beautiful book.

Did the Wife of General Greene suggest the Cotton Gin to Whitney?

Another most interesting item (to Rhode Island people) in the North American Review for May, is the statement that the idea of a Cotton Gin was first conceived by a lady, no less a person than the wife of Gen. Nathaniel Greene — Mrs. Catherine Littlefield Greene. This lady was the daughter of Mr. John Littlefield, of Block Island. General Greene and his family had moved south, where the General soon died. The separation of the seed from the cotton was a staple subject of remarks. Mrs. Greene had heard much of it. She conceived the idea of making a machine do this work which hands had always done, and set Eli Whitney, who then was boarding with her, to construct the machine. We know how successfully he did it. Mrs. Greene subsequently married Mr. Miller, and became peculiarly interested in the success of the invention. These, if true, are interesting historical facts; and the only way Mr. Rider can get any return for promulgating them is by taking new subscribers for the North American Review.

Mr. Kingston's Books for Boys.

Wild adventures in hunting animals in wild countries, or in wars with the barbarians, seem to be the staple subject of books now written for the entertainment of boys. In this direction no modern writer has excelled the late Mr. W. H. C. Kingston, either in the great number of his books or in the variety and wealth of incident. Here is one, *In the Wilds of Africa*. In it Mr. Kingston goes with the boys through the southern portion of Africa, and on the way he meets with all kinds of African animals. Some of them he kills by direct assault, some he captures by intrigue, and some by inventing all sorts of new traps. Another of Mr. Kingston's later books is *On the Banks of the Amazon*. In this book Mr. Kingston pursues the same ideas in another clime, meeting with other kinds of animals and other sorts of men. Another and still more recent book by Mr. Kingston is about a section of our own country. The scene is laid in Florida. *In the Wilds of Florida* he calls it. It is a tale of the Indian War, of Bear Hunting, and of kindred things. Now these books may not be what we call a high class of literature, in fact they are not, but they are all based on books of real travel and exploration, and they are written in such a style that boys will read them, and will be led by and by to desire to read books of travel undiluted.

Theophilus Parsons, the Chief Justice:

To me there is something interesting in the lives of judges. In fact I find many other men afflicted with the same complaint. Twenty years have come and gone since Theophilus Parsons published the life of his father, the great Massachusetts Chief Justice, yet to-day it has even more interest to me than it then had. How I gloried in the old fellow's pluck as he proceeded to clear the Supreme Court docket of cases of which his father's great grandfather couldn't remember the origin. Perhaps the most celebrated case in which he presided was in the trial of Selfridge for the murder of Austin. It was a political case. I can never look upon the stern face of the Chief Justice and consider his character as a judge, and the fact of his being afflicted with hypochondria, without amazement. Mr. Rider has this excellent memoir for sale.

Mr. Quincy's Figures of the Past:

The general fault of books now-a-days is, that they are all too big, nobody gets time to read them. But this book of Mr. Quincy's is, happily, not one of this kind. Everybody wishes it were bigger. It is just what somebody, in writing about it said, full from cover to cover of the most delightful reading. No man of his time possessed better opportunities for this kind of entertainment than did Mr. Quincy. He was in all the grand old times. He saw everybody worth seeing, and he tells us about them in the pleasantest way. The only fault is that he makes us wish there were more of it. Let us, however, be content with what he chose to give us; there's no use of denouncing plum pudding simply because we don't get enough. What we do get is good; be content.

The Know How, to Investigate:

One cannot too highly commend the spirit of inquiry, when it is properly directed and correctly pursued. The *know how to do it* is of the first necessity. Next to making no investigation is the danger of becoming too diffident. Learn one thing well before attempting another. If you start out to find the meaning of the "Peak in Darien," don't be led into an inquiry as to the ethical nature of the poetry of John Keats. Direct, positive inquiry towards a given point is commendable, and will instruct us, and more than all else give us intellectual pleasure. For the purposes of such inquiry there is no better book than Haydn's Dictionary. A new edition is just now ready. It should be in every house.

A Group of Good Books for Children:

If anybody among all the writers of books for children is to be relied upon it is Susan Coolidge. There is a freshness in every thing she writes, and then they are so natural, it seems as if we must have been acquainted with Katy and Clover and Johnnie, she makes them talk just as we should expect they would if we met them. Then there is so much life and spirit in all her child creations, and they are so full of fun and frolic, not wicked fancies, but sparkling, good humoured fun. "What Katy Did," and "What Katy Did at School," are excellent books for children, and so is "Eyebright" and the "Nine Little Goslings." This latter, however, while bringing forward many of her familiar faces, is not a connected story, but rather a series of stories. Another excellent book for quite young children is "Mice at Play." The writer of this capital book must either have been a child himself at some period of his life, or he must be a person of a first class imagination. This book was written long before Helen's Babies, yet it still lives, while Helen's family are all dead and gone forever. The fact is there is material enough in this excellent book to make half a dozen books like Helen's. Mr. Rider recommends these books to his customers.

Classic Tales for Boys and Girls:

Recently an attempt has been made to simplify the Tales of the Classical Writers for the purposes of children. Many of these books are of positive excellence. One of them, *Old Greek Stories Simply Told*, by Mr. Hanson, gives the story of the Siege of Troy, and of the wanderings of Ulysses, the exploits of Achilles and Diomedes in simple language, and beautifully illustrated with the celebrated designs of Mr. Flaxman. Another of these books is the *Stories of the Days of King Arthur*. It is by the same writer. He tells the tales of Merlin and Sir Tristram, and of the Knights of the Round Table. The book is beautifully illustrated with designs by Gustave Doré. Still another of these Classic Tales is called *Helt and Spur*. It consists of stories of the Knights of the Middle Ages, rewritten from the old chronicles, and filled with beautiful illustrations in colors from the Tapestries and Illuminated Books of the Middle Ages. Of this admirable book three thousand copies were sold at Christmas in England. It is idle to deny the great usefulness of these books in bringing the stories which have so delighted the father and mother before their sons and daughters. No better books can be obtained.

Hand Books of Reference:

It is not necessary in a community like that in which we live to urge the necessity, or demonstrate the usefulness of having books of reference at hand in our house. It was a maxim of Poor Richard's, the time "to mend the plow is when the plow breaks." So with these little investigations, the time to look them up is just when we run across them, either in reading or in conversation. It is only a few days since that one of our city papers in speaking of a certain matter used the expression, "as Tenterden Steeple was the cause of Goodwin Sands," and again more recently speaking of the Governorship of Rhode Island, as compared to other offices, said: "It is the blue ribbon of the turf." Now how are we to know the meaning of these sphinxes unless we have at hand some such book as Mr. Edward's Words, Facts and Phrases, or Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable. The writer has them for sale, and commends them to his customers.

Mrs. Alexander's Latest Novel

Is published by Messrs. Holt & Co. in a series which they have just begun, called the "Leisure Moment Series." This firm were the first to publish in neat, uniform cloth binding, serial popular novels. The great success of their "Leisure Hour Series" induced many others to follow. Thus came the "No Names," the "Round Robins," both names suggestive of secrecy. In the "Leisure Moments" we have a new departure. The volumes are 16mo. in size, or just the size of the former series; sewed as a book, not stitched, so that they open well, and can be easily held in the hand. The pages are small, and the eye is not appalled by long lines. Altogether the get up will be popular, and if all the novels are as good as the "The Admiral's Ward," the entire series will be a success. Another capital novel in this series is the "Golden Fleyce," which the London Morning Post says that in a purely literary sense excels all others of the present season!

The History of "Given" Names:

There is no more interesting study than the study of Family and Christian names. There are several books which will assist in the prosecution of these inquiries, especially those by Mark Anthony Lower, and in this country Mr. Bowditch's Suffolk Surnames. It is indeed very curious. Charlotte Yonge has also added a book to this class. It is confined almost entirely to baptismal, or as we sometimes say, given names. Mr. Rider has it.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1883.

No. 3.

These little Book Notes are prepared by a country bookseller simply as advertisements for the increase of his own business, and to awaken an interest in those living about him in the better class of books.

NOTEWORTHY NEW BOOKS.

The Biographical sketch by Mr. Kitton of John Leech, the artist and the humorist, is among the books on Mr. Rider's counter. It is the only life of this great artist. It contains engravings of original drawings by Mr. Leech, now for the first time engraved.

Mr. Richard A. Proctor, so far as style is concerned, is one of the most readable English writers on what are called scientific subjects. Under the title, *Mysteries of Time and Place*, he has just gathered together a series of his essays. The mere enumeration of their headings is their best advertisement. The Birth of the Moon, The Sun's Long Streamers, Dangers from Comets, Star Clouds and Star Mists, Cometic Mysteries, Newton and Darwin. These and twenty more go to make up the contents of this most interesting book. Mr. Worthington publishes it, and Mr. Rider has it.

Had we supreme power for a few moments, we would set everybody at work reading the *Essays of Elia*, one of the most delightful books in the world. Moreover, it is a wise book, but ah! the style—the style. It was indeed cast in the classic mould of the antique. Macmillan has just issued a new and good edition, and Mr. Rider has it. It has been most carefully edited by Mr. Ainger, who has prefixed an excellent introduction, and added some fifty pages of notes at the end. It will take precedence over all former editions.

The London Graphic for this week contains portraits of the American Representatives of the Dynamite party, now residing at Millbank, besides a large number of portraits of the members of the Scotland Yard, Turkish Cavalry Scenes in Egypt, The Coronation at Honolulu, and some tit-bits of American Life on the Plains. Mr. Rider takes subscriptions.

The first volume of Mr. Henry Morley's Universal Library will be Sheridan's Plays. It will be published during the present month in England by Messrs. Routledge & Sons. The series promises to be one of the best collections of good books at a very low price, yet issued. The English drama will be largely represented. The best books on the theory of government, such as Hobbes' Leviathan, and Machiavelli's Prince, and translations of the best German, French, Spanish and Italian books.

A *Walk in Hellas* is the name given by Denton J. Snider to a publication in which he gives an account of a tour on foot through the cities, villages and rural districts of the Kingdom of Greece in the year 1879. It is from the press of Osgood & Co. Mr. Rider has it.

One of the brightest and prettiest stories among those recently issued is the *Transplanted Rose*. It is a New York Society story. Another is *Anne*, by Constance Woolson, a promising American writer. It is full of excellent woodcuts by Reinhart. Still another is *Beyond Recall*, the latest of the Leisure Hours.

The new Personal Narrative of Battles of the Rebellion (No. 19.) will be by Capt. John K. Bucklin, concerning the battle at Cedar Creek. It will be issued on Saturday.

Bentley on the Epistles of Phalaris:

The new volume of Boln's Classical Library, now published by Messrs. George Bell & Sons, is Bentley's Dissertations on the Epistles of Phalaris. Twice during the present century has this book been published, yet it has been of uncommon occurrence in the stores. It has always been a highly esteemed work. A most learned and interesting account of it can be found in the life of Dr. Bentley, published by the Harpers in the English Men of Letters.

The Epistles of Phalaris, first published in 1495, were supposed to have been written by Phalaris of Agrigentum, who was a ruler in Sicily some six hundred years B. C. In 1695, Charles Boyle, afterward Earl of Orrery, published an edition, which

Sir William Temple cited together with Æsop's Fables as conspicuous instances of the superiority of the ancients in literature. Bentley, then in his 36th year, declared the Epistles to be a modern forgery, and the fables to have been never written by Æsop, or if they were ever written by that poet, to be the last and poorest of his work. This book was written to maintain the positions thus taken, and most successfully Bentley did it. No one has hitherto succeeded in disturbing the solidity of his argument. To enjoy this splendid scholarship one must call into play the very highest intellectual faculties. Mr. Rider has it.

A French Gentleman's Ideas of Rhode Island in 1780 :

In one of Charles Lamb's delightful Letters addressed to Hazlitt in 1805 there is found thrown in by way of an interjection, doubtless from Bridget Elia thus, "O! tell Hazlitt not to forget to send me the American Farmer. I dare say it is not so good as he fancies; but a book's a book." This book, of which it appears that Hazlitt was such an admirer, has recently fallen into our hands. It has peculiar interest to us here in Rhode Island. Its title is: *Lettres d'un Cultivateur Américain écrites à W. S. Ecuyer depuis l'année 1770 jusqu'à 1781. Traduites de l'Anglois par * * ** 2 vols. 12mo. Maestricht, 1785. The author was a French gentleman, born at Caen, in Normandy, in 1731, named Hector St. John Crèvecoeur. After a residence of upwards of a quarter of a century in this country he returned to Europe, and on the solicitation of his friends wrote these letters first in English because of his long familiarity with that language, and then himself translated them into his native tongue. They were at once very popular, and are believed to have caused a large emigration to America. There were certainly two French, two English, and one American edition. The present is one of the first French edition. These letters are descriptive of various portions of the country, besides which they contain a great number of anecdotes of the people, which are in themselves charming reading, and which they are full of information. We have translated for our Book Notes some of the portions relating to Rhode Island, which we here present: "Of all the eastern isles Newport is indeed the most healthful. It has become the rendezvous of all nationalities,—English, Dutch, and French. One could indeed call this charming island the Montpelier of America. Here the heat of summer is moderated by the breezes from the sea, while the severity of the winter is lessened by the nearness of the ocean. The head land of this island as seen from the sea presents a singular collection of picturesque rocks, and of little fertile

fields, with an abundance of dark rich soils, while some are sterile from the accumulation of the sands. Here are quiet and commodious bays, and sharp promontories. It was this portion of the island which inspired Bishop Berkeley with the desire to build a college. Here one can, so to speak, cultivate the land with one hand, while he catches fish with the other. The sea shores abound with fish of every kind, but especially with *ten-tags*. The island of *Kanaticat* combines the excellence of its pasturage, with the most arable of soils, the facility of fishing, with the beauty of its situation, and the salubrity of its atmosphere. One could wish for nothing more delightful than to pass the remainder of his days on one, or the other, of these islands." A very sensible Frenchman that. There are other interesting matters in this work which we may some time print. Speaking of *ten-tags*, it is curious how little corruption has crept into our present use of the name of this fish. Roger Williams, in his Key to the Indian Language, gives it *Tautauog*.

English Style in Public Discourse, by Austin Phelps:

Professor Phelps is not merely elegant, his style is as strong and vigorous as it is neat and harmonious. He is never dull; whatever he writes about has an irresistible charm and a universal interest. Although his books were all originally composed with a view to a clerical audience, they are too large in their scope to be confined to any one class of readers. *English Style* is especially broad and comprehensive, and it is particularly fascinating from its stores of happy illustrations and its frequent discussions of matters that every one is interested in, but which few are competent to decide for themselves; such as the comparative value and distinguishing excellences of the great dictionaries, the use of certain words and idioms, and a thousand kindred topics. By far the greater part of the volume relates to English style in its widest acceptation, and the entire work is the most valuable contribution to the subject ever made by an American writer. It is from the press of Charles Scribner's Sons, and Mr. Rider has it.

The Tourist Edition of Drake's White Mountains:

It is certainly seasonable to call thus early, attention to this excellent book. The Messrs. Harper have prepared this cheap edition, wherein the beautiful wood engravings have been printed with all the care which in the former edition gave so much pleasure. This book is indeed a treasure to any one visiting these Hills. Here one can learn how to appreciate the beautiful or to admire the picturesque. The pleasure of a summer visit there can be certainly doubled by a careful study of this admirable book.

The Palace of the King of Spain, in Bristol:

In a small book with the following title, "The North American and the West Indian Gazetteer, containing an *authentic* description," etc., published in London so recently as 1778, occurs this account of one of our Rhode Island towns, "Bristol, a county and town in New England. It is the most considerable town in the country, having a commodious harbour, at the entrance of which lies Rhode Island. This town is laid out with more regularity than any in the province, and has more trade. The capital is remarkable for the *King of Spain's having a palace in it, and being killed there*, and also for Crown, the poet, begging it of Charles the Second." The author, doubtless, got Philip of Castile, and our Indian Chief, King Philip, (no relation so far as we know, of him of Castile, but rather to him of Macedon), slightly mixed. So far as Crown, the poet, went, he did the begging, but Charles didn't do the giving, vive l'histoire.

Blind Leaders of the Blind:

It is too much to expect of any book of reference that it shall contain no error. Humanly speaking the greater the number of facts stated, the greater the number of errors. A carelessly prepared reference book is indeed but a blind leader of the blind. The way to overcome the difficulty is when you find an error, notify the author, or the publisher, or your bookseller, and the errors will disappear. We were led to these reflections by a friend pointing out the error of a year in the date of the coup d'Etat as given by Mr. Edwards in *Words, Facts and Phrases*, which book for the uses of the family, is nevertheless excellent. The coup d'Etat took place December 2, 1851. Napoleon, 3rd, was proclaimed Emperor December 2, 1852, and that is probably the way in which Mr. Edwards was led into error. This excellent book is for sale by Mr. Rider.

About Roses:

An author who teaches us how to make a single rose to bloom beneath our window, has conferred upon us an everlasting benefit. Mr. Gottsberger has just issued a neat, and withal, cheap book upon this subject; it is by Mr. S. B. Hole. Herein he shows to us the causes of failure. In the process of cultivation, which, once clearly understood, teaches us how to make success more certain. He describes to us that which he conceives to be perfection in this Queen of Beauty, so that when we see a perfect flower we also may know it. Mr. Rider has it.

Art in Ancient Egypt:

This magnificent work is, as the author tells us, the first installment of an undertaking which contemplates a complete history of the antique art which began with the Pharaohs and ended with the Roman Emperors. Those best able to form an opinion, declare it to be by far the most valuable scientific study of Egyptian art yet given in the English language. It recognizes the great service rendered to this knowledge by M. Maspero, in the great discovery, one of the most dramatic in all history, which he was so instrumental in making, at Thebes, of thirty-eight Royal Mummies, and thousands of specimens of genuine antique art, now in the museums at Boulak. The translator, Mr. Armstrong, has in an appendix given an account of this splendid discovery. In purchasing an edition of this superb work and placing it at a low price before the American people, Messrs. A. C. Armstrong & Son have done a service to their countrymen. Mr. Rider has it.

Through One Administration:

This celebrated story of society in Washington, by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, probably the most careful, artistic, and interesting study of this important phase of American life—was first printed in the Century Magazine, and awakened a very general interest. It is a thorough exposition of the peculiar features of the Republican court-circles—the venal and the honest Senators, the land-speculators, the woman lobbyist, the army officers on detached service—prepared by one of the foremost novelists of the world, who has received a special qualification for the work by a residence of several years' duration in Washington. It is to be issued from the press of Osgood during the week.

Greek and Roman Sculpture:

This book by Mr. Walter Copland Perry is intended to be a popular introduction to the history of this art in Greece and Rome. It contains two hundred and sixty-eight illustrations on wood. While it places before the artist principles by which the greatest masters in the greatest period of art were guided, it at the same time provides the amateur with the knowledge requisite to a comprehension of the remains of ancient art in the museums or private collections of the present day. It is not indeed a book for everybody, but there are a hundred people in Providence who would be the better off for having it. Mr. Rider is selling a small balance at a much reduced price.

The words of the good are like a staff in a slippery place.

A New Chronicle of the Middle Ages:

A most important addition has just been made to the English Library of Historical Books in the *Chronicle of James the First, King of Aragon*, surnamed the Conqueror, written by himself in the language of the Catalanians, and now for the first time rendered into English. The period covered extends from A. D. 1208 to 1276. The career of the great conqueror who "rolled back the tide of war" that had surged against the Pyrenees, and, with a courage hardly credible at his tender years, decided once for all the preponderance of the Cross or the Crescent in the Spanish Peninsular, is known in its leading outlines to all historical students, but in *his own work* must be sought the particulars of how he contrived to establish his authority over the turbulent nobility of his native kingdom, and then, through a career of almost uninterrupted success, carried the arms of Christian chivalry to the conquest of the Balearic Islands and the kingdoms of Valencia and Murcia, until the Saracens were driven to their last rampart, the mountains of the Sierra Elvira and the beautiful city of Grenada, where their last and unavailing stand was made, 200 years later, against Ferdinand and Isabella.

The present work is produced with every advantage that the most thorough scholarship and a total disregard of expense could afford, and the edition, being limited in number, is certain to become scarce.

The Real Lord Byron:

Here are new views of the poet's life, by John Conly Jeaffreson, and they will create a sensation in the literary world. It is a new and most thorough study of the facts of the great poet's career, in which many long existing misapprehensions are corrected, and many hitherto-ignored incidents are brought to light, and set in their proper relations to the fruits of Byron's life. The fictions which have been industriously propagated by his biographers are laid bare, and testimony is introduced from unimpeachable sources, including many contemporary letters not hitherto published, to show how astounding have been the misrepresentations and misconceptions now current about the author of "Childe Harold." A fine volume from the press of Osgood, and also one of Harpers' Franklin Squares.

The Simplicity of the Apostolic Gospel:

The Rev. C. A. Row, Prebendary of St. Paul's, a writer not hitherto unknown, has recently written a book in which he contrasts modern theology with Revelation, and undertakes to demonstrate the simplicity of the apostolic Gospel. This, in the interests of Christianity is of the first importance. The author's object is the development of the position assumed in his Bampton Lecture that Christianity as distinct from theological systems consists of a few simple principles, and that these constitute its essence as a revelation, and to further inquire what is really essential and what are merely human addition. The author is a man of much scholarship, whose books have been well received in England, and have, several of them, passed through many editions. It is from the press of Charles Scribner's Sons.

Tales of Old Japan:

These delightful tales possess at least two claims upon our attention. First, in that they are most charmingly told stories, simply as stories, and second, that however strange they may appear to us, as to their possibility or probability, Mr. Mitford, the author, assures us there are, nevertheless, many competent Europeans who can and will vouch for their entire accuracy. There is no more pleasing way in which we can gain an intimate knowledge of a people than by this kind of folk-lore. Here are the Loves of Gompachi and Komurasaki; the Eta maiden; the accomplished and lucky Tea Kettle; the Foxes' Wedding, and a hundred other tales. Now not only are these most charming stories, but they tell us accurately of the Japanese life; and they are besides most capitally illustrated. It is from the press of Macmillan.

The Story of James Nasmyth:

There is a difference between a man who with his right arm deals heavy blows in the mechanic arts, and slowly forges the steps by which he approaches the pinnacle of fame, and he who considers the world as his oyster, and with his sword undertakes to open it. We confess to a liking to the man who honestly hammers out the place which men willingly allot to him in the books of fame. Such a man was James Nasmyth. He was the man who invented the Trip Hammer, and an hundred other curious devices by which men now gain an honest livelihood. He began at the bottom round, and here himself tells the story of his trials and triumphs. Such talks are always helpful to us. It is from the Harpers' press.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1883.

No. 4.

Curious Rhode Island Marriages:

A correspondent of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Mr. John Q. Adams, of Natick, R. I., sends to the magazine the following curious notice of a marriage, copied from the early records of the town of Warwick: "These are to signify unto all ministers of justice that Henry Strait Jun. of East Greenwich in ye colony of R. I. & Prov. Plantations took Mary Webb of ye town of Warwick in ye colony a fousd widow in only a shift, and no other Garment in ye presn^s of Avis Gordon May Collins and Presilah Crandall and was Lawfully Married in s^t Warwick ye first of August 1725 by me. Recorded ye 5th of Nov 1725 pr John Wickes T. C."

In the Council and Probate Book, No. 1, page 37, South Kingston, there is another similar notice: "Thomas Cullenwell was joyned in Marriage to Abigaille his wife the 22nd day of February 1719-20. He took her in Marriage after she had gone four times a cross the Highway in only her shift and hairlace and no other clothing. Joyned to gather in marriage per me. George Hassard. Just." Doubtless there are other instances of this extraordinary practice, which was not, however, peculiar to Rhode Island. Mr. Ashton, in his *Social Life in the Reign of Queen Anne*, 12 mo. ed., p. 31, presents a record of a similar transaction in London. It probably arose from an erroneous popular reasoning on the English statute concerning marriage, the words of which are thus: "The husband is liable to the wife's debts contracted before marriage, whether he had any portion with her or not, and this the law presumes reasonable, because by the marriage the husband acquires an absolute interest in her personal estate." *Lacon's Abridgment*, art. 485, *Baron and Feme*. Thus, notwithstanding the explicit terms of the statute, that the husband became liable whether he received anything, or received nothing, these ignorant people reasoned that a man became liable *because* he received personal property; therefore, if he received absolutely *no* property he could *not* become liable. So, then, ladies were married as nearly naked as circumstances would permit. We are not absolutely certain, but we suppose that *hairlace*

and *shifts* were articles of personal estate, so that these husbands must, on their own reasoning, have become liable. So far as we know the Rhode Island courts have never decided the question. What the crossing of the highway in one case had to do with the validity of the marriage, we do not know. It was like the leaving of a shilling to every heir to make a valid will, or the popular belief that evidence through a window glass was worthless—a popular error.

Mr. Isaacs and Doctor Claudius:

It is useless to undertake to deny the excellence of a book of which the public have demanded thirteen thousand copies, yet this is true of Mr. Isaacs. This book is reprinted in this country in good style by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., and since their first issue it has been repeatedly out of print. The demand for this book was not a first rush and then over, but it has been a steady growth. There is much more demand now than when it was first issued. It was so with *Pinafore*—everybody ridiculed it, everybody laughed at it, everybody, or nearly everybody went for many months to listen to it, and the Queen knighted its author. Never, or hardly ever, was there so complete a success. Mr. Rider is now selling copies of the thirteenth edition. *Doctor Claudius*, the new book by F. Marion Crawford, the author of Mr. Isaacs, will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., May 31st. Mr. Rider will have it.

Harper's Young People:

The publishers of this admirable little periodical in view of its usefulness as a supplementary reader in the schools, make a special offer to teachers of forty copies of any issue for one dollar, free of postage. The weekly numbers are filled with articles suited to children on History, Travel, Natural Science, in fact, these articles cover the entire field of literature. In no other way is it possible to get so much that is good, with nothing bad, for such a small sum. Mr. Rider will take subscriptions for the magazine and deliver at residences, or will get for any teacher the numbers desired for school use. The idea is excellent.

The Origin of the Name Rhode Island:

The Magazine of American History for February has an extended article by Dr. J. G. Kohl on the origin of the name of our state. He claims that it must have arisen from the Verrazano letter, wherein the supposed navigator compares some island along the coast with the isle of Rhodes. This letter was first printed in English by Hakluyt in 1600, the body of the letter in black letter, thus *Rhodes*, while the word Rhodes is in Roman capitals, thus RHODES. This fact, the learned Doctor thinks, must have fixed the name in the minds of the first settlers, who were, as he thinks, familiar with this old classic, and thus, when searching for a name, they thought of it. About thirty years ago these same views (saying only the prominence of the types) were advanced by this same writer. It is now generally conceded that this letter of Verrazano's is a historical fraud; that Verrazano never saw the lands which he described, nor the isle which he compares with the isle of Rhodes. Nevertheless when the legislators of 1644 made the law which made Aquethneck, henceforth the Isle of Rhodes or Rhode Island, the idea may have sprung from this fictitious letter of Verrazano's.

Politics for Young Americans:

This little book, its author tells us, grew out of an attempt to instruct his oldest son in the political knowledge which every American boy ought to know. The subject grew, and that which Mr. Nordhoff thought would be good for his boy would not be bad for other people's boys; so, too, thought Harper & Brothers, and they printed the book. It undertakes the defence of no political party, but it tells the boys what political parties are, who vote and why, what government is for, what it does, and describes its different departments. How the legislative portion is selected, and how it makes the laws. How the executive portion is selected and executes the laws, and of the judicial portion which defines and construes the laws, (but in the election or appointment of which there is in our system a weak or wrong way of doing it). The book is excellent, and ought to be kept in the library and read by everybody. Mr. Rider has it.

A Study of Origins:

A leading French Christian scholar, M. de Pressensé, well known to English readers by his admirable life of Jesus Christ, has just issued a most learned defence of the faith which is in him, from the vehement attacks which have in these recent years been made upon it by the advocates and defenders of materialism.

To repel the assaults of Haeckel and Darwin and their followers he comes, and while he declares that neither the Bible nor the Councils have any prescriptive right to control science—he also declares that science is equally bound not to receive the arbitrary commands of any of its exponents. Liberty of thought without prejudice is what he asks. He believes that a nation cannot be taught with impunity that the moral law is a mere fiction, that duty is but interest disguised, or that apart from sensation there is nothing. He thinks "under such circumstances life would be a mere farce. Happily he believes such ideas are not true, that they are hypotheses which, while they bewilder us, are contradicted by both science and philosophy, to say nothing of the rock of conscience upon which they must ever split." This is one of those books of which the Final Causes of Janet was the forerunner. Mr. Rider has it.

New England Bird Life:

This book now completed by the publication of the second volume, is practically the work of two men, Winifred A. Stearns and Dr. Elliott Coues. The first volume, published two years ago, related entirely to the large family, *Oscines*, or singing birds. The second volume, just ready, describes the *Non-oscine passerines*, *Birds of Prey*, and *Game and Water Birds*. Thus we have a complete New England ornithology, fully up to the present state of knowledge and at a price which places it within the reach of everybody. And since Samuels' Ornithology has become antiquated, this book will be all the more welcome. In no other part of the United States has the study of Birds reached such perfection as in New England, and this book sums up this knowledge. It is an admirable work for the country. Its wood-cuts add immensely to its value. Messrs. Lee & Shepard publish it, and Mr. Rider sells it.

Campaigns of the Civil War:

The concluding volumes of this series has just been published by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons. It is the Virginia Campaign of '64 and '65, by General Humphreys. It is much the largest volume of the series, illustrated with many maps which appear to be very carefully drawn, and are well engraved. The volume relates to the most interesting period of the war—the battles of the Wilderness; the passage of the James; the assault on Petersburg; the siege, with all its most interesting adventures; the gradual extension on Lee's right; Five Forks; the evacuation of Petersburg and Lee's attempt to reach the Danville road, which, however, Sheridan prevents, and Appomattox Court House and peace follow. Such is the outline of a story which, as years go by, will be read and studied by ever-increasing numbers of men. Mr. Rider has it.

Mosaics of Bible History :

The title of this book tells in the shortest way just what the authors have undertaken to do. Thus it is, *Mosaics of Bible History, the Bible Record with illustrative poetic and prose selections from standard literature.* The work is in two volumes, the first contains the *old* and the second the *new* testament history. The authors in their preface first tell us what their work is *not*, and then refer us to their treatment of the book of Job for a specimen of their handiwork. To this book, therefore, we go. The Bible is the oldest book in the world, and the story of Job is the oldest book in it. Its outline is briefly stated thus : Job was a person occupying a very high position in the land of Uz ; he possessed very great wealth, of perfect integrity, blameless in all the relations of life, a perfect and up right man, combining in his person the highest goodness and the most perfect happiness. Satan suggests a question that Job does not fear God for nought, but that if his great temporal blessings were taken from him he would curse God to His face. The accuser receives permission to make the trial. He destroys Job's property, then his family are taken from him by death, and himself finally afflicted with the most troublesome disease. Job's wife urges him to curse God and die, but Job gently replies : " Shall we receive good at the hands of the Lord, and shall we not receive evil ? " During all this time Job remained steadfast in his faith and was finally restored to health, to property and to friends. Thus the tale is told, interspersed with extracts from illustrative writers like Lowth, Henry, Blair, and others, and from the English poets, Young, Campbell, Sangster, Quarles, and others. The object being to enable us more quickly to perceive the meaning, the object, or the beauty of the sacred writer by the side lights thus thrown upon the story. It is an admirable book for Sunday afternoons. Harper & Brothers publish it and Mr. Rider sells it.

History of American Politics

This little book, by Mr. Alexander Johnston, is an admirable companion to Mr. Nordhoff's Politics for Young Americans. The intention of its author was not, like Mr. Nordhoff, to tell his boy how, and for what, the state was constructed, but tell him what the state had been doing in a political way since its construction. He begins with the birth of the state, and comes down to the present time. In a concise and direct way we are told how the country settled down to business under the constitution, bought Louisiana of the French, and Florida of the Spanish, of the war with England, and of the discontent of New England thereat, and how the Hartford

Convention grew out of that discontent, of the Missouri compromise and what it meant, of the Era of good feeling, of the real formation of parties under the tenth administration, of rotation in office and of the doctrine, then new, in our government, that to the victors belong the spoils, of nullification and the growth of anti-slavery ideas, and so on down to the present time. From these short paragraphs, which any man or woman can read and understand in three minutes, one can comprehend what he reads in the current news or hears talked about in good society. Mr. Rider urges the sale of this little book.

Spanish Vistas :

Two gentlemen, one an author, Mr. George Parsons Lathrop, and the other an artist, Mr. C. S. Reinhart, made a tour in Spain, whereof they printed some account in sundry numbers of Harper's Magazine. These articles became deservedly popular, and have now been gathered into a volume and published. These gentlemen entered Spain from France across the Pyrenees, making their first stop at Burgos, long the capital of old Castile, thence they journeyed to Madrid in New Castile, thence to Toledo, and Cordova, the latter in Andalusia, from thence to Seville and the Alhambra in the same Province ; here some time was spent. From Seville they journeyed to Alicante in the Province of Valencia on the borders of the Mediterranean, which coast they skirted, stopping the whites at the cities of Valencia and Barcelona. Thus these gentlemen visited the most renowned cities, and provinces of the country, which Mr. Lathrop describes in the most off-hand manner, while Mr. Reinhart sketches the most beautiful, or the most grotesque things which came in their way. The book while it is a book of travels, is, in the ordinary sense, nothing of the kind ; it is what its name indicates, *Spanish Vistas* seen through a couple of pairs of sharp American eyes. Mr. Rider has it.

In the Olden Time :

This is the name of the latest of the Leisure Hours, and the Leisure Moments, for it appears in both series. One of the author's former books, *Noblesse Oblige*, became very popular, and will be a good leader for the present story, the scene of which is laid in Germany, about 1325, the period of the Peasant war. The effect of these wild and troubled times on the fortunes of private individuals is carefully depicted, and the story illustrates the fact that domestic life exists ; the people marry and are given in marriage, and that dancing and merry-making go on, while to those far distant the whole people seem engaged in interual feuds. This story will add to the reputation of its author.

Mr. Clark Russell's New Sea Story:

Jessie, the Sea Queen, as she was afterwards called, was born at Newcastle; her father was an old sea-captain; here she grew to be a woman, her mother died, and a clever young sailor, Richard Fowler, married her, at which time, as she says, she knew all about ships, the masts, the yards and the gear. A delightful honeymoon follows, finally broken by the departure of the young husband for the Gulf of Mexico. Finally he came; the babe was dead; the young sailor mourns the loss of the child he had never seen. Another voyage in another ship is arranged in which the young wife sails with her husband. They buffet the winds, in the cold North sea, and finally, when well out on the broad Atlantic, a mutiny breaks out among the men, which, however, is finally overcome. Hurricanes and heavy seas follow; the good ship *Aurora* becomes water-logged, and lies a helpless wreck amid the ugly waters. At last another element—fire—is let loose upon the hapless voyagers. In an open boat, on an angry sea, for a day and a night they float with the almost helpless sailors; rescued by a passing ship, which was, however, stricken with African fever. No sooner did these poor wayfarers escape one peril than another menaced them. Sick they became, and well again. At last, home; forsook the seas; lived long and happily, and told to their children's children the tales of their hapless voyage. Such is the naked outline. As a descriptive writer of sea tales Mr. Clark Russell has no living equal. Messrs. Harper & Brothers issue two editions of this splendid tale, one in the Franklin Square and another in a sixteen-mo., half cloth, bound volume, different in style from any hitherto issued.

Muller's Political History of Recent Times:

This excellent book, already before the public now several weeks, has not attracted the attention of which it is deserving. It is a concise history of events in all the countries of Europe (for America is omitted) between the years 1816 and 1881. Good histories of times so recent are difficult to obtain. Here is an opportunity to get a good one. A little schedule of some of the events narrated in it will show its range. The Revolutions in Naples and Piedmont in 1820. France and the restoration of the Bourbons after *Waterloo*. The French Revolution of July, 1830, and the consequences throughout Europe. Louis Philippe and his government. The French Revolution of 1848 and the Republic, followed by the Second Empire. The war in Italy and the battles of *Solférino* and *Magenta*. The Crimean war with the *Reben*, the *Malakoff*, the *Mamelon* and *Sebas-*

topol. Schleswig-Holstein war, followed by the war between Prussia and Austria and *Sadowa*, and the formation of the North German confederation under the leadership of Prussia. Then follows the Franco-Prussian war, with *Sedan*, and the collapse of the Second Empire. The Commune in France, and the development of Nihilistic ideas throughout the continent; at the close comes the Russo-Turkish war, and *Pleena*, and the events which have followed. Thus can be seen a slight summary of this compact, well digested history of recent events in Europe. The book has a good index, making of it a capital reference book. Every intelligent family ought to have it on their library tables—and Mr. Rider can put it there.

Underground Russia:

This extraordinary book, which, the London Daily News says, is much more interesting than the best sensational novel, is about to be published by the house of Charles Scribner's Sons. Its full title is *Underground Russia, Revolutionary Profiles and Sketches from Life*, by Stepmiak, formerly editor of *Zemlia i Volia*, (Land and Liberty). The London Athenæum, in a recent review of the English edition, says: "It is a book as yet *unique in literature*. It is a priceless contribution to our knowledge of Russian thought and feeling. As a true and faithful reflection of certain aspects of perhaps the most tremendous political movement in history, it seems destined to become a standard work."

Stephen's History of English Criminal Law:

The writer of this book has long been well known to American lawyers by his admirable treatise on the Law of Evidence. In England his East Indian legal studies brought him to the forefront. Indeed, it was these studies which suggested this very book, which the St. James Gazette says "it would be impertinence to praise." It displays years of labor, and a constant presence of a common sense not the less keen because it is robust. Issued by Macmillan & Co.

The coronation of the Czar will make the coming numbers of the London Graphic and London Illustrated News most interesting papers. Mr. Rider receives subscriptions.

The current number of the *London Spectator* speaks in the highest terms of Mr. Norris's *No New Thing*. Mr. Rider takes subscriptions for the *Spectator* and sells the *No New Thing*.

The current number of the London Athenæum has an admirable notice of Mrs. Burnett's *Through One Administration*. It says: "The pathetic power so fully shown in *That Lass O'Loerie* is shown in many a pathetic scene in the new story, whose only fault is that it is too touching."

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1883.

No. 5.

Sermons by George Harris:

The Rev. George Harris, some time pastor of the Central Congregational Church, being about to leave Providence for another field of service, has at the urgent request of his parishioners, published a small collection of sermons. There are five of them, selected from among those preached during the last eleven years. A Christmas Sermon, The Worthy Life, Seeing God, Society Eternal, and a Children's Sermon. They are indeed few in number, but they are well selected, and they will leave a tangible proof of his service, such as he will not wish recalled as the years roll by. The modesty of this excellent writer is the misfortune of the readers of good books. The little book is published by Messrs. Shaw & Swarts. Mr. Rider will gladly supply it.

The Reading of Books:

Idleness is the holiday of fools, as Chesterfield once wrote in a letter to his son, setting forth to him the charms of literature to a man of sense. The reading of books, if properly followed, is one of the best of remedies for idleness. But if reading is without thought or purpose, one might as well be idle. Mr. Charles F. Thwing has well presented the evils and the advantages of reading, in a little book just issued by Messrs. Lee & Shepard. He tells one not only how to read well, but he tells him also what are the best books in the various lines of reading, such as history, biography, poetry, fiction, and historical fiction. These heads are followed by a selection of books for one's library. While no two persons would probably select the same list, yet in the main his selections are excellent. Mr. Rider has it.

The impression left upon the mind after reading Mr. Jefferson's *Real Lord Byron*, is that his character is untainted with the base vices attributed to it during the life time of the poet.—*Academy*.

Heart of the White Mountains:

Mr. Samuel Adams Drake published in Harpers' Magazine a series of sketches on The Legends and Scenery of the White Mountains. These sketches were afterwards gathered into a beautiful volume for Christmas uses. The publishers have now printed an edition on smaller paper, for convenience in travelling, but just as finely done as the larger one, which they style the Tourist edition. With this help one can linger among these romantic hills gathering their legendary stories as the eye takes in their wondrous outlines. Endless are the tales of personal adventure, but unfortunately most travellers possess not the art of extracting them. In this book many of them are handily gathered for them; of Abel and Ethan Crawford; of the Pigwackets; of Nathaniel Copland his adventure; of Robert Rogers, the Ranger; of the Indians, their customs, their stories, and their legends, there is a very large collection. These Indian legends have a peculiar charm to us, as indeed they seem to have for many people. They are never tiresome. This beautiful book, issued by the Harpers, is for sale by Mr. Rider.

Dr. Timothy Newell, of this city, recently read a paper before the American Public Health Association, at Boston, on the Sanitary, Physical, and Educational Advantages of Interior Open Areas in large cities. It is a compact, well arranged argument in defence of Public Parks. Dr. Newell has also read a paper in this city before the Public Park Association, on the Importance of Preserving and Improving our Cove Basin and Park. It is an able plea for this once beautiful but now abused sheet of water. The most surprising thing in our history is the apathy with which men discuss or listen to the discussion by others of plans for the destruction of this magnificent natural sheet of water in the heart of this great city.

The Chronicle of James, King of Aragon, presents us a lively picture of medieval life.—*Academy*.

The Memoir of John A. Dix:

In March, 1879, at the ripe age of eighty years, died John A. Dix, in the city of New York. A memoir in two handsome volumes is just now published by the Harpers, and written by Morgan Dix, who, at the opening of his preface, makes an apology for being the son of the subject of the memoir. The greatest honor that a son can render to an honored father is to set forth the story of his life as a guide and an encouragement to men. Of all men living Morgan Dix was the fittest person for this, which must have been to him, most delightful task. Almost the entire life of General Dix was passed in the public service, always with credit to himself, and always on an elevated plain. Almost a boy he entered the army soon after the last war with England, serving and studying. Leaving the army, he studied law with Wirt, settled down in New York State, became a lawyer, and drifted naturally into political life. He held various positions in the State, was Adjutant General, Superintendent of Schools, Legislator, Secretary of State, United States Senator, Postmaster of New York city, Secretary of the Treasury, Major-General in the Army of the Rebellion, and Governor of New York. For the details of this long and eventful service the reader must be referred to the memoir itself, which is a history, and in no sense a memorial. Here nothing will be found to need apology, or excuse. Morgan Dix had no act of his father's life to hide or cover up, simply to tell things as they were. Fortunate father in having such a son, and fortunate son in having such a father. Many portraits and other illustrations adorn the work, which is to be commended in every way. Mr. Rider has it.

A Fashionable Sufferer:

These bright sketches of social life, by Mr. Augustus Hoppin, will be one of the most attractive summer books of this season. Mr. Hoppin handles a pen as gracefully as he does his pencil, and the union, so rare, of these gifts, produces charming results. The charm of this book is its close delineation of actual life. Few writers possess the gift to discern the nice shades of character, and fewer still the art of delineating them. How well Mr. Hoppin exercises these gifts is well shown in the careful study of Mr. Cynicus Donce, a pessimist, and in the carefully drawn N. E., the nervous exhaustionist. Pungent but refined satire pervades every page. It is a mental photograph, every line of which was to the author, probably, an actual occurrence, what fun he must have had as he wrote and sketched it. It was thus with his Recollections of Aunt Hester, the best delineation of child life ever written.

Judicial History of Rhode Island:

Thomas Durfee, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, has just ready an interesting monograph entitled, "*Gleanings from the Judicial History of Rhode Island.*" It forms No. 18 of the Series of Rhode Island Historical Tracts, issued by the publisher of these Notes. It covers the entire Colonial period, and is brought down to the death of Judge Eddy. There are, indeed, references to certain cases since that time. There is very much in these Gleanings which, although very old in fact, will be very new to most readers. The Growth of the Courts, The Assumption of Judicial Power by the General Assembly, The Singular Penalties Imposed, will, interspersed as the narrative is by many curious details long since lost from the memory of men, form a most interesting chapter in the history of Rhode Island, and never before gathered together. A limited edition only has been printed, and those who want the Tract must come early. It will be issued on Tuesday morning.

Doctor Claudius at Newport:

Chapter XV of the new novel by Mr. Marion Crawford, relates to the scenery and social life at Newport, which Mr. Crawford says is a pretty place, with nothing grand or even natural in it, but pretty for all that. "In spite of million-getters, choleric architects who produce excrescences, and call the things houses, and earth barbers who lather, and shave, and clip nature into patterns, the place is remarkable among watering places, perhaps the most remarkable in the world." As a novel it is too soon to speak of it. But of one thing we are certain, and that is the disfiguration of the narrative by the incessant interpolation of French, Spanish, Latin, and even Russian phrases and words. This is a mistake. When a man undertakes to write English, let him stick to that language. Mr. Rider sells this book.

The Civil War—Comte de Paris:

The third volume of this excellent history of the civil war, for which we have so long waited, is just ready. It contains a detailed narrative of the war on the Rappahannock, with full accounts of the battle of Chancellorsville; the attack of the monitors on Fort Sumter; the sieges and fall of Vicksburg and Port Hudson; the battles of Murfreesborough, Port Gibson and Champion's Hill, and, above all, the fullest and most authentic account of the battle of Gettysburg ever written. The maps are beautifully printed in three colors. Mr. Rider has it.

How to Get Strong and Keep So :

The intellect is of little or no use without a good, stout, healthy body; the head is supposed to contain the brain, the body sustains the head, when the body gives out the head falls, therefore strive for a good, stout, healthy body first, and then cultivate the intellect. Dr. Blakie, in his *How to Get Strong*, has not undertaken to construct a profound system of gymnastics, but rather to tell in a simple, untechnical way, so that any boy or girl can understand, how to take better care of their bodies, and he points out an effectual and cheap way of doing it. It comes within the means of everybody. How half built boys can be finished up, and weakly girls strengthened in every part; how *that tired feeling* can be made to disappear like mist before the sun, and happiness like a sunbeam will fall upon every member of the family. How the fat man, and the thin man are taught to work, and the old man to regain the circulation of blood which in his youth touched the tips of his fingers. Everybody would be happier if they would first buy, then read, lastly practice the excellent rules laid down in this small book. Mr. Rider has it.

Saints and Sinners :

The name suggests Utah at once, and Utah it is. Among the Mormons Mr. Phil Robinson spent three months, and right well he used his time. Here he finds everything so different from what we had been led to suppose was the actual condition, that his story is indeed a revelation. His picture of the town of Logan, in Utah, is indeed charming. Here are sobriety, thrift, economy, contentment and order, in fact here dwell all the virtues. It must have been the spot Sam Johnson had in his eye when he described the homestead of Rasselas. Polygamy is indeed here, but Mr. Phil Robinson has discovered the sovereign specific against that disease. It lies in the importation of a few fashionable milliners. They will soon settle the difficulty without any assistance from the Edmund's bill. Messrs. Roberts & Brothers publish it, and Mr. Rider sells it.

For the Major :

Is a bright and sparkling summer novel. It is a book for the hammock, an episode in southern life, written by the author of *Anne, Mrs. Woolson*. Sara, the daughter of the Major, is just one of those young women one likes to read about, and yet every one knows just such women. The step-mother's secret is odd. One never before heard of such a secret's making such a mess. The book is clever, and will make a good summer story. Harpers publish it, and Mr. Rider sells it.

By the Blood of the Bosworths :

In Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge's Memoir of Webster in the American Statesmen series, which Mr. Rider sells, there is an anecdote of a young Rhode Island lawyer who became subsequently a Judge of the Supreme Court of this State. Thus it runs: "The counsel in the court below had been assisted in these Rhode Island cases by a clever young lawyer named Bosworth, who had elaborated a point which he thought very important, but which his seniors rejected. Mr. Bosworth was sent to Washington to instruct Mr. Webster as to the cause, and after he had gone through the case Mr. Webster asked him if that was all. Mr. Bosworth modestly replied that there was another view of his own, which his seniors had refuted, and then briefly stated it. When he had concluded, Mr. Webster started up and exclaimed: 'Mr. Bosworth, by the blood of all the Bosworths who fell on Bosworth field, that is the point of the case. Let it be included in the brief by all means.'"

Spanish Travel :

Hitherto books written by intelligent travelers in this ancient country have not been common. This lack seems at present to be in a fair way of being remedied. Mr. Lathrop has just finished his *Spanish Vistas*. Mr. Edward Everett Hale has nearly out from the press of Roberts Brothers his story of his visit in 1882, to Seven Spanish Cities. It is impossible that from observations of such bright travellers, we should not be able to get a first rate idea of the present condition of Castile and Andalusia.

In this connection it might be well to note that Mr. Hale has written a second part to his *Ten Times One is Ten*. He gives an account of his hero, Harry Wadsworth, and of the Wadsworth Clubs, which grew out of his story. A new edition of the first part will also contain the second part. Mr. Rider will have it.

Right Angle Interest Table :

This is at once the cheapest and most useful interest table ever made. Its name comes from the manner in which the calculation is made. Calculations are given for almost any per cent., and on any sum, on the basis of 365 or 360 days. There are many rules for Percentage, Time Tables, Table of Specific Gravities, Rules for finding the capacity of boxes, tanks, cisterns, or any circular vessel. For averaging accounts, Compound equations, and many other most useful matters, a work of this kind whereby the wearing mental labor necessary in these calculations can be averted or abridged is a priceless boon to many men.

Thirlwall's Letters to a Friend :

This book, republished by Roberts Brothers, contains a series of letters written by Bishop Thirlwall to a young lady friend, resident in Wales. They are edited by Dean Stanley. The volume contains also Stanley's sermon at the interment in Westminster Abbey, by the side of Grote. Thus lie two historians of Greece side by side. These letters cover a period of ten years, 1864-1874, and are exceedingly bright and entertaining. It is curious to observe how accurate was his literary opinions, as compared with the subsequent judgments of men. Books which he said were good, the world at large still say are good. He tells innumerable anecdotes of his intercourse with distinguished people, and he knew every body worth knowing in England. His way of putting things is very effective, often witty, and sometimes droll. Thus he says of one of Mr. Perowne's sermons : "Mr. Perowne has been preaching an admirable sermon on the damnatory clause. You may judge how good it must have been from the fact that a young lady went into fits." That certainly must have been effective preaching. Mr. Rider sells this capital book.

Study the Lives of the Birds :

Now is the time as you go to the country for the summer, when you are driven to your wits end for some rational occupation, to study the Lives of the Birds around you. Certainly there can be no more charming or healthful pursuit. It will lead you forth into the fields and forests. The ear will be charmed with their delightful songs, while the eye will be filled with their beautiful forms. Thus every sense will be gratified and the body strengthened and preserved. As a means to this excellent end buy Mr. Stearn's New England Bird Life, now just completed, and with it go forth into the fields. Mr. Rider sells it.

Famous Women :

This excellent series of the biographies of eminent women so well begun with *George Eliot*, and continued with *Emily Bronte*, will in a few days contain its third volume, *George Sand*, (Madame Dudevant) by Bertha Thomas. Roberts Brothers are its publishers.

Princess Amelie :

This is the name of the new No Name Novel. What it's about we can tell when it's out. Mr. Niles admits no bad novels into this excellent series, and unless he is mistaken this also will be good. Mr. Rider will have it. It will be ready in five days.

Details of the Nihilistic Plots :

If this book, *Underground Russia*, by Stepiank, is a true story, and the English reviewers do not question it, it is the most remarkable ever written about Russia. It is an electric light thrown upon these revolutionary proceedings. But if the thing be fiction, then we have a new writer who exceeds in intense dramatic power any novelist of this century. It goes without saying that this book must be read by everybody who wishes to understand the political condition of this unhappy people. In a series of sketches which the author styles revolutionary profiles, are presented personal accounts of many of the most prominent actors in these nihilistic plots. These sketches are carefully drawn and of exceeding interest, particularly of the beautiful Sophia Perovskaia, a lineal descendant of Peter the Great. These are followed by most graphic accounts of the various plots at Moscow, the railway mine, the band of hermits, the concealers, the secret press, and other matters. Verily fiction fades into insignificance before the truth as here related. Mr. Rider has it.

Scientific Studies :

A revised edition of the late Professor Orton's *Comparative Zoology* has just been issued by the Harpers. It is designed for use in Schools and Colleges, but it is just as useful for private study. The aim of its author was to present clearly the established facts and principles of Zoology. By a comparative study of the varieties of organs to enable a student to understand those structural affinities upon which true classification is founded. There are chapters in this book which will interest a general reader, and the knowledge he will get out of them will do him no harm in the end. Let him try, "How Animals Move," "How Animals Breathe," "The Voices of Animals," "The Egg," and the "Transformations of Animals." Simply told and easily understood, they will interest every body. Mr. Rider sells them.

Pretty New Books for Children :

The eleventh in Harpers' Young People's Series is *Nan*, by Lucy C. Lillie, who wrote a series of children's stories, comprised in a former volume of the same series, entitled *Mildred's Bargain*. These little books are for ten year olds. Toby Tyler was one of them. There is nothing in them to offend the most fastidious. Mr. Rider has them.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1883.

No. 6.

Shiftless Rhode Island Marriages:

In a recent number of these Book Notes were some references to curious Rhode Island marriages. Since that time other cases have been brought to light, and as there are some slight differences in the cases it has occurred to me to reproduce them all so that we may be able to discover the extent and variety of this singular vagary. The first record following is from the Westerly Records. It runs thus:

"To all people to whom it may concern. This may certify that Nathaniel Bundy of Westerly took ye widow Mary Palmetor of sd town in ye highway with no other clothing but shifting or smock on ye evening of the 29th day of April 1724 and was joined together in that honorable estate of matrimony in ye presence of

John Corey	} and was joined together as
George Stillman	
Messey Hill	
Peter Crundall	
Mary Crundall	} above mentioned per me
John Saunders Justice	
Registered ye 27 day of April 1724	

Pr John Babcock Town Clerk."

The second is from the Scituate Records. It occurred at a much later period than the preceding record, and the very long time of four years is observable between the date of the marriage and the date of its record. It is as follows:

"I hereby Certify that Isaac Howard of Scituate in the County of Providence and Took Hepsbezd Darbee a poor widow woman as she came to him in the Kings Highway in her shift in sd Scituate, aforesaid to be his wife and that they the sd Isaac and the sd Hepsbezd was lawfully joined Together in Marriage the 7th Day of April 1770,

In the aforesaid highway in the presence of Capt Thos Fry Benajoh Place and Benjamin Wells and others before me the Subscriber Jeremiah Angel Justice of the Peace, Recorded March 18th 1774.

per Gideon Harris Town Clerk."

Still another case has been brought to my notice in which the shift was a borrowed one, thus admitting that this garment was personal property. Of this case I can find no authentic

record. In the Newport Historical Magazine, vol. 2, p. 125, there is a communication referring to two other cases in Rhode Island, one in Hopkinton, and one in Richmond, but the Town Clerks of those towns inform me they know of no such cases.

Christine, the new Leisure Hour:

Christine, by Louis Enault, is a translation by Miss Pendleton of a recent French novel. The scene is laid in Stockholm, and the descriptions of the capitol of Sweden in the winter months is really effective. The characters are a young Count, George de Simiane, an attache to the French diplomatic service, and a charming woman, Madame de Ruden, otherwise Countess Christine and Nadeje. The young Count fell in love with Christine, but married Nadeje. The story illustrates the inconvenience of falling in love with two beautiful women at the same time, of marrying one, and ultimately discovering that she was the wrong one. The young Count supposed he had married a woman, whereas she was only a beautifully dressed doll. And he found that those who wear the most beautiful dresses, often give more pleasure to others than their husbands. These and many other things the young Count learned, but all too late. The die was cast, Christine sorrowed her life away, the unhappiness of George adding drops to her cup, which was already overflowing. Reproach, however, was not in her, as the last breath left her, she said: "Poor darling, what have I to forgive?" He merely mistook the road, but it wasn't his fault, he went where he thought he would find happiness. Who would not have done the same? Mr. Rider has it.

An unusually complimentary notice is given by the *Saturday Review* of Mr. Anthony Trollope's latest novel, *Mr. Scarborough's Family*. After speaking of the very original character of some of the actors it says the story is so life-like and so extremely readable that we lay it down with a pleasure largely leavened with regret. It is in Harper's Franklin Square Library. Mr. Rider has it.

Such of the subscribers to magazines at Mr. Rider's as go into the country during the summer months, can have their periodicals forwarded to their summer addresses *without charge* by notifying him.

Religious Toleration in Rhode Island :

Mr. T. W. Higginson has an article in the July Harper on the second generation of Englishmen in America. By the term second generation Mr. Higginson probably means the children of the first settlers, born, of course, in the colonies, but how they became the second generation of Englishmen in America he fails to inform us. He gives to Rhode Island the credit of being the first of the early colonies which was founded on the principle of religious liberty, and to Maryland the credit of being the second. He gives very high praise to Roger Williams, by whose wise policy all the jarring elements which fled from the intolerance of Massachusetts, were ultimately disarmed and rendered harmless. Of some of these jarring elements he speaks carelessly, particularly of Gorton, concerning whom he says, the Grand Jury of the city of Providence found an indictment for, among other things, calling the magistrates Just-As-ses. This makes a first rate joke, but against it may be urged, 1st. that there was no such place as the city of Providence; 2d, that whatever place there was then called by that name, it found no indictment against Gorton; 3d, it is very improbable whether *any* indictment was ever found by any (Rhode Island) town against him, but if any it was Portsmouth. These are, however, but *slight* errors, and of little consequence in *historical compositions*. Mr. Rider takes subscriptions for all Harper's periodicals.

E. A. H.

"The literature of Rhode Island has recently been enlivened by the addition of a little treatise on the *History of the Umbrella*, by E. A. H. It is not long since this same E. A. H. published another similar treatise, the *History of the Fan*. Both were prepared by this well-known Providence lady, "who hath a tear for pity and a hand open as the day for melting charity." As the bee flits over the fields, sipping here and there the honey from the open flowers, so has this lady, ranging the broad fields of English Poetry, and Fiction, and Customs, gathering here a little, and there a little, and finally wove the whole into an ingenious story, which she has allowed to be sold only for charity's sake. Go thou and do likewise.

Anecdote of old an Narragansett Family :

In a recent number of these Book Notes appeared some account of *Hector St. John's Letters*, in which he refers to Rhode Island. An anecdote which he relates concerning an ancient family of Narragansett, here follows: "One day in that part of Rhode Island called Point Judith, where I was stopping with one of the most ancient families of this peninsula, the master of the house related the following anecdote: 'The father of my great-grandfather was a captain of cavalry in the service of Charles the First. A moment before the battle of * * * his horse cast a shoe. He alighted to recover it and had but just time to place it on his head and cover it with his hat when the action began. In the fight he received a blow from a sabre on the head which cleft his hat but was arrested by the horse-shoe on which was left two long, deep gashes. I have carefully preserved these two relics, would you like to see them?' Very much, indeed, I replied. I held in my hand and examined with great care these fortunate relics. The accidental placing of the iron had saved the life of the ancestor, who, as the master of the house informed me, after the restoration of Charles the Second, solicited in vain the restitution of that wealth which Cromwell had confiscated. Fatigued with the ingratitude of this careless king, he gathered together such little property as was left to him, came here, bought this peninsula, which he had subdivided among his descendants, and this is the house built by him in 1677."

Help to Historical Reading :

The multiplication of books makes selection necessary,—no man's life is long enough to read everything—therefore choice is a necessity. The question is how and what to choose. History is, or ought to be, the first great subject of enquiry. Suppose you wish to read the history of France, you are confronted by at least a hundred and fifty writers on that subject. Were your bookseller competent and conscientious he might help you to choose wisely, but few booksellers are competent, and fewer still are conscientious. Just here comes in Professor Adams' *Manual of Historical Literature* and tells you in a moment just what writers there are, what periods they cover, how they relate one to another, and in a word tells us how to read wisely, and well, without waste of time. This book covers not only French history, but also the histories of every other country in the world, and every period from the remotest days of antiquity even to the present. The Harpers publish it, and Mr. Rider sells it.

What Mr. Lincoln thought of Gen. Burnside:

The following letter, so extraordinary in its character and of such interest to us here in Rhode Island, needs no apology for its reproduction. Certain military critics thought Burnside incompetent; here we can see what President Lincoln thought about it. Such frankness in a state paper is really refreshing. At its reception Hooker must have been at a loss whether to swear, or get drunk; probably he did both.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

Washington, D. C., January 26, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOOKER:

GENERAL: I have placed you at the head of the Army of the Potomac. Of course I have done this upon what appears to me to be sufficient reasons, and yet I think it best for you to know that there are some things in regard to which I am not quite satisfied with you. I believe you to be a brave and skilful soldier, which, of course, I like. I also believe you do not mix politics with your profession, in which you are right. You have confidence in yourself, which is a valuable, if not an indispensable, quality. You are ambitious, which, within reasonable bounds, does good rather than harm; but I think that during General Burnside's command of the army you have taken counsel of your ambition, and thwarted him as much as you could, in which you did a great wrong to the country and to a most meritorious and honorable brother-officer. I have heard, in such way as to believe it, of your recently saying that both the army and the Government needed a dictator. Of course it was not for this, but in spite of it, that I have given you the command. Only those generals who gain successes can set up dictators. What I now ask of you is military success, and I will risk the dictatorship. The Government will support you to the utmost of its ability, which is neither more nor less than it has done and will do for all commanders. I much fear that the spirit which you have aided to infuse into the army, of criticising their commander and withholding confidence from him will now turn upon you. I shall assist you as far as I can to put it down. Neither you nor Napoleon, if he were alive again, could get any good out of an army while such a spirit prevails in it. And now beware of rashness. Beware of rashness, but with energy and sleepless vigilance go forward and give us victories.

Yours, very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

This letter is from the 3d volume of the History of the War by the Comte de Paris, just published. Mr. Rider has it.

Omnipotence of the General Assembly:

Mr. Tom Man used to say of the General Assembly of Rhode Island, that it acted as if it considered itself omnipotent. Mr. Man drew his argument from observation. That he was correct there is no doubt,—we draw the argument from history. This body passed an act for the *Preventing fires doing damage* in the town of Newport. This act was clearly an act of omnipotence, instances of which are rare, occurring only in the pages of Sacred History. *Vide 3d Exodus, 2d, and 3d Daniel, 13th, et seq.* This idea of their omnipotence is still further exemplified in the oath which the Assembly prescribed to be administered to newly elected Deputies. "You, A. B., being chosen to the place of Deputy to sit in the General Assembly, do as in presence of God solemnly engage true allegiance to His Majesty." It would be easy to multiply instances, but these now shown make out the case. It is clear that the Assembly thought itself omnipotent.

A Tragedy in the Imperial Harem:

This is a Historical novel of our own time—a story of the revolution in Turkey in 1879-80, and of the dethronement, and subsequent murder of the Sultan, Abdul-Aziz. It was written by Leila Hanoum; Hanoum means madam or lady, thus we should say by Madam Leila. It was translated from the French by General Colston, who has for six years been in the service of the late Khedive of Egypt, and has thus become well acquainted with the social life of the Turks. He declares it to be a most faithful and graphic delineation of Moslem society. The authoress was a resident of Constantinople during all this time. The government of Turkey is an absolute despotism—the ruler living in perpetual dread of plots and assassination. The harem has played a most important part in the mismanagement of affairs, the Sultan, instead of governing an empire, being for the most part engaged in amusing himself with the slave women (for they are nothing else) in his harem. To the everlasting credit of literature, is it, that its aid is seldom invoked to record such a picture of the degradation of women as Lady Leila has herein recorded. Adroit as this lady is in the delineation of political intrigue, she is no less skilful in her description of Turkish Harem Life. The buying and selling of young girls into a life of slavery, done as alleged under the sanction of the English ambassador is positively shocking. The whole story is a revelation of social life in Turkey such as we have not lately seen and which we hope will soon come to an end. Mr. William S. Gottsberger publishes it, in the style of the Ebers novels, and Mr. Rider has it.

Mr. Ruggles's Book about Germany.

Mr. Henry Ruggles, formerly U. S. Consul at Malta and Barcelona, has just published by Messrs. Lee & Shepard a book about Germany. It is called *Germany seen without Spectacles*. In it the author endeavors to avoid as far as possible the common paths of travellers, the palaces, the museums and the picture galleries, and to go with his readers to other places, if less frequented by travellers, certainly not less interesting. Thus he goes to the students' duels at Heidelberg, which, it seems, are difficult of access to outsiders. He gives a very graphic account of them. They are certainly more bloody affairs than they are commonly supposed to be. He tells of the beer and the drinkers thereof. He actually finds an old fellow who can hold sixteen gallons daily. He describes the different German beers and their comparative merits. He describes the workwomen in the fields, and paints a painful picture of the degradation of women of the lower class. But with all the beer drinking he finds much less crime than with us, where whisky is the underlying cause. In the thoroughness with which the Germans do their work, he finds particular delight—the way they build their railways, and their public buildings,—but the thing that pleased him most was the way they punished a defaulter. This pest is, indeed, rare in Germany, but this rarity doubtless adds to the zest with which he is punished. The book is altogether a good one. Mr. Rider has it.

The Ladies Lindores :

The critic of the *Literary World* says of this last novel of Mrs. Oliphant that it is thoroughly enjoyable, in fact one of the best by this estimable writer. Upon this judgment we should implicitly rely. The *Literary World* may, in all cases where the author lives *outside of Boston*, be depended upon in such matters. Harper & Brothers publish two editions, one in the Franklin Square, and another in a 12mo volume. Mr. Rider has them.

The Navy in the War :

The series of historical treatises concerning the operations of the Navy in the Civil War, which has been in course of publication by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons, has just been brought to a close by the publication of the *Atlantic Coast*, by Rear Admiral Annen, and the *Gulf and Inland Waters*, by Commander Nahan. The entire series, now complete, comprises sixteen volumes, and forms a history of the war written in epochs. This series is one of the best of these later crystallizations of history yet published.

Sergeant Gardiner's Cavalry Experiences :

Incidents of Cavalry Experiences during General Pope's Campaign, by William Gardiner, late Sergeant First Rhode Island Cavalry, forms the twentieth number of the second series of the Personal Narratives of Events in the War of the Rebellion. This edition is strictly limited to two hundred and fifty copies. As time passes these little Tracts will certainly become extremely scarce, and their pecuniary value much increased. In fact sets of the first series of these narratives, consisting of ten numbers, which cost the original subscribers \$3.55, have already been sold for \$13.50. Mr. Rider will issue Sergeant Gardiner's Tract on Tuesday.

The Coming Books from Osgood & Co.

Among the books announced for immediate publication by Messrs. J. R. Osgood & Co., is the 16th volume of the popular Round Robins, *His Second Campaign*. It is a story of social life in a secluded valley in Georgia, wherein there came to dwell a Chicago Yankee. Another of this firm's new books, but very different in character, is Mr. Cunningham's *Familiar Sketches of Phillips Exeter Academy*, now just a century old. This entertaining volume, filled with reminiscences must possess great interest to the thousands of graduates now living all over the land. Mr. Rider will have them.

Mr. Curtis's Life of Buchanan :

This biography, upon which Mr. George Ticknor Curtis has been engaged for some years, is now nearly ready for the press of Harper & Brothers. No similar work since the war possesses anything like the historical interest this book promises. The secret history of President Buchanan's administration will now be for the first time exposed, and it is said that letters of men eminent in political affairs, popularly supposed to be opposed to Mr. Buchanan's administration, will now be printed, showing them to have been entirely upon the opposite side, and among his most trusted advisers. The History of the Outbreak of the Rebellion yet remains to be written. This new life will be in two handsome octavos.

La bonne chere :

Something good to eat can be had by following the directions laid down in *Mrs. Mary Henderson's Practical Cooking*. The *Art of Dinner Giving*, with simple but very judicious directions to make a table attractive, is also given by Mrs. Henderson, who knows well how to do what she here undertakes to teach to others. She has made one of the best books in existence on the most important of the arts. Mr. Rider has it.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1883.

No. 7.

The Case of the British Ship *Nautilus* at Newport:

As Rhode Island was first in making a serious armed resistance to Great Britain in the war of the Revolution, capturing and destroying the man-of-war *Gaspee*, so also was she first in opposing the subsequent oppression of the same power, in the impressment of American sailors, which led to the war of 1812. Boldly seizing and detaining the two chief officers of the British man-of-war *Nautilus*, until the impressed seamen were restored to liberty. The prompt and decisive action by the government of Rhode Island in the case of this ship, which came into Newport in May, 1794, for supplies, is well worth narrating. On his arrival, Captain Baynton applied to Governor Fenner for permission to obtain supplies. The Assembly being in session, the Governor referred the request to that body. The supplies required were fresh provisions, bread, water, wood and shoes. While the matter was under consideration the gunner of the fort informed them that there were thirteen American sailors on the ship, three of whom had been impressed. On this information, the Assembly requested Captain Baynton to appear before a committee consisting of Henry Marchant, the District Judge, and the Judges of the Superior Court, whereof Daniel Owen was their chief, and William Taggart, Walter Cook, Joshua Bicknell, and Thomas Tillnghast were associates. Captain Baynton came before them, accompanied by his first lieutenant and Thomas W. Moore, the British Vice-Consul, resident at Newport. The committee stated that it had been reported to them that American sailors had been impressed and were detained unwillingly on board the *Nautilus*. This Captain Baynton denied, which denial the committee did not consider satisfactory, and thereupon asked the captain if he, with his lieutenant, would go on board the *Nautilus* with one or two gentlemen to be selected by the Assembly, and let them make the enquiry. He agreed to this proposition, and also to the justice of discharging such sailors, if such there were. At this juncture the British consul sug-

gested that this was allowing a British ship to be searched, which was beneath the dignity of the British navy. Upon this the Captain at once withdrew his consent to go on board with the committee, or to allow such committee to go. He demanded to know whether he was a prisoner or not, and finally with his lieutenant passed from the room into the lobby to go on board his ship; but the people had so crowded into the old State House that the two officers were perforce obliged to return to the committee-room in a very angry state of mind, complaining that they had been kicked and otherwise abused. The committee being unable to obtain further satisfaction reported the facts to the Assembly, whereupon that body passed a resolution directing that Captain Baynton and his lieutenant, who were then on shore, remain there until an investigation can be had by the judicial authority of this State and district. The British Captain finding by this summary proceeding that he was unable to go on board his ship, consented to a further discussion, which resulted in his agreeing to permit a committee to visit the *Nautilus*, and make an investigation. This was immediately done, the two officers being detained on shore. It resulted in finding six men who claimed to be American citizens, to have been impressed, and detained against their consent. The ship's books showed against the names of these six men, that one came from Martha's Vineyard, one from Charleston, one from Boston, one from Georgetown, S. C., one from Portsmouth, Va., and one from New City, N. Y. The books also showed that the men did not themselves sign the books, but that some one of the ship's officers had written their names upon the books. Capt. Baynton expressed great surprise at this discovery, and consented at once to the discharge of these men, and to the payment of their wages. This was immediately done. The Assembly was satisfied, voted to inquire what stores the ship then had on board, with the intention to vote permission to purchase, if in their opinion such supplies were necessary. This information was given, and the captain received permission to purchase five thousand and pounds weight of bread, five hun-

dred and sixty pounds weight of beef and veal, and one hundred and fifty pairs of shoes. The judges were directed to prepare a statement of all the transactions, and send it to the Secretary of War, which was done, and President Washington incorporated it into a message to Congress.

Not a taint of private pecuniary interest attaches to this extraordinary affair, as is the case with the Gaspee. It was a manly and dignified determination by the state to protect American citizens from impressment into the British navy. Curiously enough no writer of history has hitherto referred to it. Arnold, stopping at 1790, of course did not reach it; but neither Hildreth, who covers the time, nor Ingersoll, who wrote a history of the war of 1812 and of the causes which led to it, have mentioned it.

The Princess Amelie:

It is a story of the old nobility of Alsace and Lorraine, during the last quarter of the eighteenth century. Reniremont, where the story opens, was a convent in the latter of these provinces, where the Princess Amelie found a home after the deaths of her parents. This convent was rather select in its society,—no lady was allowed to become a member of its sisterhood unless she could prove nine generations, or two hundred and twenty-five years of untarnished noble birth, on both her paternal and maternal line. The story presents this rather abnormal condition of things: A rich and lovely young woman, dead in love with one fellow, is about to marry another whom she absolutely hates and despises,—while a very excellent young fellow, (notwithstanding he is a count, he is of some account,) is about to be married to this young woman, albeit, a princess, she all the while supposing him to be the other fellow. How a fellow would feel, who was about to marry a young woman whom he knew supposed him to be some one else, is not related. It was a happy thought in the young princess in this emergency, to call to her assistance the famous, or infamous, Duchess of Kingston, certainly a most competent adviser in such a dilemma. The Duchess was now old and experienced. In her earlier years having as convenience, or occasion required, frequently on her hands one, two, or three husbands at the same time. She was fully up to the present case, and one can easily imagine how successfully she engineered the whole difficulty, so that the right girl married the right fellow, and everybody was contented and happy.

"Two souls with but a single thought,
Two hearts that beat as one."

The little novel is one of the best of the No Names. Messrs. Roberts Brothers publish it, and Mr. Rider sells it.

The Twelve Americans:

Mr. Howard Carroll has written of twelve Americans, their lives and times. The names selected are Horatio Seymour, Charles Francis Adams, Peter Cooper, Hannibal Hamlin, John Gilbert, Robert C. Schenck, Frederick Douglass, William Allen, Allen G. Thurman, Joseph Jefferson, Elihu B. Washburne, and Alexander H. Stephens. Each sketch is preceded by a wood-cut portrait. The sketches are sprightly and pleasantly written, and are interspersed with contemporary anecdotes, social and political. This makes them altogether amusing reading. The sketch of Fred. Douglass is certainly an extraordinary story, the dullest writer could not make it uninteresting. In this book it is exceedingly clear. The portrait of Mr. Schenck, compared with the almost eulogistic sketch which follows it, reminds one of the tale of the singed cat, which was so much better than it looked. But the part of this sketch which is most impressive is that relating to an important work heretofore largely sold in this country, and supposed to have been written by this gentleman, "Rules for the game of Draw Poker." Here we learn that Mr. Schenck, at the earnest solicitation of the Countess Waldegrave, drew up for her some rules for the famous American game. The countess having a private printing press, for the convenience of a few of her friends, printed a few copies. That, Mr. Carroll says, is all the foundation there is for this lying story, only this and nothing more. The Countess' private press must have been a Hoe six cylinder, driven by a steam engine. Messrs. Harper & Brothers are its publishers. Mr. Rider has it.

Mr. Crawford's Dr. Claudius:

The *London Athenaeum* gives this new and very popular novel an admirable review. It affirms that in his second attempt Mr. Crawford has achieved another decided success. The characters are more easily grasped, and in some particulars are wonderfully distinct. Each one is an epitome. The heroine is especially an elaborate and delicate study. Few recent books have been so difficult to lay down when once begun, as *Mr. Isaacs* and *Dr. Claudius*, and fewer still will be read with so little skipping. This certainly is very high praise from a very high source. It certainly was not criticism which enabled Mr. Crawford to write good stories, for that he is indebted only to his own genius; but he is under everlasting obligations to those shrewd critics for so quickly discovering his excellencies. Messrs. Macmillan & Co. are his publishers, and Mr. Rider sells his books.

The Pretty St. George Girls:

St. George was the patronymic, and Loraine and Marjorie the given names of these two pretty girls, about whom this lady, prominent in New York society, has written a story. The scene is England, and the continent and people all English. We go with them to all such society places as the upper ten frequent, including the Ascot races, and a Fox hunt of the regular English pattern, not an anise seed affair, such as the farmers on Rhode Island complain of, but a first-class run over a fine country from find to finish. It was at Faneholm that the meet took place. This was the homestead of Gerald Fane, the best fellow in all London, no affectation nor nonsense about him, but a perfect personification of all that women do most admire in men. Now young Fane had an aunt, and she had a daughter Judith, and Aunt Fane thought that out of this material a most desirable match might be made; but Fane didn't see it, he loved his cousin, (cousinly, no more). He had his eye on Marjorie St. George, and she had her eye on him, and thereby hangs the tale; it was how to escape Judith and get Marjorie. But it all came right in the end, only we wanted Loraine to have the best fellow, and we doubt if she got him. It is a pretty summer novel published by the Petersons, and for sale by Mr. Rider.

The Story of George Sand's Life:

The pseudonym of Madame Dudevant seems to have arisen in this way: The earliest literary attempts of Madame Dudevant were in company with Jules Sandeau. Their first stories were published under the pseudonym "Jules Sand," presently *Indiana* was undertaken by the lady alone, and being in need of a name she fixed upon George Sand, the George being assumed in memory of the province of Berry wherein she dwelt, which was mainly the abode of husbandmen. It is likewise suggestive of Virgil. In this connection there is something amusing in the horror expressed by the Baroness Dudevant, her mother-in-law, at the idea of seeing the name of a Dudevant on the cover of a printed book. George Sand was a literary success from the start. The morality of some of her earlier stories was so difficult to discuss, that the discussion of one, "*Lélia*," resulted in a duel with swords between two prominent Parisian editors, one of them of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. Her most celebrated book was *Consuelo*, followed by its continuation the *Countess Rastolstadt*. In the interesting accounts given here of this publication, we discover that they were a growth rather than a conception. George Sand began the first as a novelette in the *Revue*, with no intention of making it of any length; but its great and immediate success induced her to continue, until five or six volumes was the result.

Her history brings us into contact with many of the most famous names in modern French literature,—Balzac, De Musset, Saint Beuve, among the rest, besides Liszt and Chopin among musicians. An incident is related of an evening in her *salon* in Paris. The whole company sat listening to the extemporizations of Chopin, when a servant rushed in with the alarm of the house on fire. They all rushed to put out the fire. On returning they found the poet Mickiewicz, all unconscious of any alarm, still entranced by the harmonies which filled his ears. It is an interesting history of a very great feminine intellect. But like most lives there is a sorrowful side to it. One can have only commiseration for a woman condemned to spend a life-time in the close relation of married life with a man who, to his dying day, had only supreme contempt for his wife's intelligence, while all the world was paying tribute to her genius. Such indeed was the fate of Madame Dudevant. Messrs. Roberts Brothers publish it, and Mr. Rider sells it.

Mr. Rolfe's Edition of Shakespeare:

This excellent edition, which has for some years been passing through the press, is just now brought to a close by the issue of the Poems. These are issued in two parts, one containing the sonnets, and the other the remaining poems. These complete one of the best editions of Shakespeare for ordinary people's every day use now accessible. Each play is issued separately in a neat volume, either in cloth or paper. Thus they are light to hold, large type, full of useful notes, and wood-cut illustrations, and without bulky for the pocket; "as we at noon-tide, our listless length would stretch, to pore upon the brook that bubbles by." Messrs. Harper & Brothers publish them, and they will doubtlessly ultimately bind them in sets of ten or twelve volumes for library uses. Mr. Rider has them all.

Mr. Black's Latest Novel:

Those who buy this book of Mr. Rider have the privilege of pronouncing its name, "*Yolande*," as they please, without further cost. He has two editions, both published by the Harpers'; one, the Franklin Square, and the other a substantial 12 mo. volume, to match the set of Black's novels which this house publish. It is beyond question that no former novel of Mr. Black has, within the short time of its issue, had anything like the number of readers that *Yolande* has already had, and yet people say Mr. Black is playing out,—verily we can't see it.

Mr. Caldecott's Æsop:

It is sometimes uncertain when a literary critic begins operations, which will get the most damage, himself or the object of his criticism. This was made manifest a few days ago by a serious onslaught made by somebody on the drawings of the animals by Mr. Caldecott, in this his latest book. Never did a fellow less understand the subject of his criticism. He failed utterly to set forth the superlative excellence of the book, and exhibited only his own ignorance. Mr. Caldecott meant that the pictures of the animals should present the sentiment, or character which the author, be he Æsop, or whomsoever, meant to portray. And they do it. More than this is the wit of the *modern instance* which accompany each Fable. Take the first one, "The Fox and the Crow." The crow has the cheese, the fox wants it. He forthwith praises inordinately the crow: she would be the Queen of Birds had she only a voice; she, flattered beyond measure, proposes to show him that she has a voice, opens her throat to caw, when down goes the cheese, and that is how the fox got what he was after. Now for the modern instance. A dapper young fellow calls on a damsel, who occupies a seat on the sofa beside her mother. A piano-leg in one corner suggests music, the frantic flying about of his arms, and the position of the old lady suggests at once his commendation of her musical accomplishments. The next *carte* shows the old lady at work at the piano, and the dapper young fellow kissing the damsel behind her. That's how *he* got the cheese. The book is exceedingly clever. It is published by Macmillan, and for sale by Mr. Rider.

The Romantic Adventures of a Milkmaid:

This story, by Mr. Thomas Hardy, forms the latest issue in Harper's Franklin Square Library. It is illustrated by C. S. Reinhart. It is to appear in the midsummer number of the *London Graphic* with the same plates. Mr. Hardy has written two very successful novels: *Far from the Madding Crowd*, and *The Return of the Nation*. As a delineator of the best phase of English country life, this author has no superior among living writers.

Aut Cæsar, aut Nihil,

Is the name of the Franklin Square of the current week. It is a translation from the German of the Countess M. Von Bothmer. Most of the modern translations of the German novels have been remarkably popular. Translations of the novels by this lady have been published in England; but this is possibly the first one yet issued in this country.

Frederic the Great and Maria Thresa:

Those who have read Carlyle and Macaulay, have now only to read these letters, and the other hitherto unpublished documents, just now published by the Duc de Broglie, to discover how little they know concerning these two great historical characters. If there is anybody who is just now getting the *history* knocked out of his literary labors it is Lord Macaulay. A little while since it was about *Bacon*, now it is *Frederick*, soon it will doubtless be *Hastings* or *Lord Clive*. The Duc de Broglie's costly English volumes, (say \$12.00,) are issued in the Franklin Square, by Harper, for 20 cents.

The Real Lord Byron:

This book, concerning which the *London Times* says almost every chapter contains material which may fairly be called new, throws a flood of new light on the most critical periods of Byron's life. The *Athenæum* asserts that no other book relating to the history of English literature of this century, has *ever* appeared containing so much fresh information. Every person who wishes to be well-informed in these matters, must read and re-read this book. And while the morals of Byron do not appear to have been precisely those of Bunyan or Baxter, it is yet some consolation to have the frightful story by Mrs. Stowe blown to the four winds of the heavens. It is published in good library style by Osgood & Co., and for the million by Harper, in the Franklin Square.

Seek not Strange Gods:

Anthony Trollope died full of literary honors, and in favor with all English-reading people. He wrote many novels, chief among them are *He Knew He was Right*, and *Phineas Finn*, and *Phineas Redux*, and *The Small House at Atterington*, and *The Prime Minister* and *Orley Farm*. They are all old novels; but they are good ones, and they possess an established character. If you have not read them they will be just as new to you as if published only yesterday. Why waste time over a book just published, only to find out that it is worthless, when you can fall back on a substantial novel like one of these. If you must have something entirely new, then get *Mr. Scarborough's Family*, the last of the Trollope novels. It is a Franklin Square, and Mr. Rider has it.

Roberts Brothers' New Books:

In the last number of these Book Notes was announced the new No Name Novel, *Princess Am'tie*. It is now published, as is also *George Sand*, by Bertha Thomas, the third in the famous women series. The new edition of "Ten Times one is Ten," by Edward Everett Hale, much enlarged, is also ready.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1883.

No. 8.

Did Rhode Island Disfranchise the Members of the Society of Cincinnati?

The statement is made by Mr. John Bach Mc-Masters, in the "History of the People of the United States," that there was so much dissatisfaction at the establishment of the Society of the Cincinnati, that "Rhode Island disfranchised such of her citizens as were members of the order." The only authority cited is the *Freeman's Journal* of April 28, 1784, a newspaper published in Philadelphia. This statement I believe to be devoid of truth. The Society of the Cincinnati was organized in 1783, with branch societies in each state. The society in Rhode Island was organized in that year. It was chartered by the General Assembly in 1814. The preamble to the charter states explicitly its formation in 1783 and its continuance. The *Freeman's Journal*, the authority quoted by Mr. Mc-Masters, says "Rhode Island is determined to disfranchise any and every person who is a member of the Order of the Cincinnati, and render them incapable of holding any post of honor and trust in the government." Even this slender authority is no authority for Mr. Mc-Masters. The article says Rhode Island *intended* to do something. It does not say Rhode Island had done anything. On this slight foundation Mr. Mc-Masters builds his argument. I propose to show that at every period between 1783, the time when the society was organized, and 1814, the time when the charter was granted, members of this society were connected with every department of the Rhode Island State government. Archibald Cray, an original member of the society, was a member of the General Assembly in 1784-5-6; he was speaker of the House of Representatives, 1797. Jeremiah Olney, an original member, served in the General Assembly in 1785-6. Thomas Arnold was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, 1785-6. William Bradford, an original member of the society, served in the General Assembly, 1772-92, when he was elected U. S. Senator until 1797. Henry Sherburne, an original member of the society, served the State as General Treasurer,

1792-1808. Daniel Lyman, an original member, and one of the incorporators named in the charter of 1814, served the state as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from 1802-16. Benjamin Bourne, an honorary member, was Collector for the county of Providence, 1784-5; member of the General Assembly from 1784-90, when he was elected a Representative to Congress, serving 1790-6. William Jones, an original member, served in the General Assembly for many years, appointed by that body a Justice of the Peace many times; was speaker of the House of Representatives in 1810; Governor of Rhode Island 1811-17. Thus it appears that during no year, from 1783 to 1817, was the society unrepresented by its members in some of the higher offices of the State government, and that the statement that they were disfranchised is entirely incorrect. There are other things said in this book about Rhode Island, to which I propose giving attention in another article in these BOOK NOTES, my limited space forbidding it in this issue. A few weeks since the *Nation* spoke of certain familiar passages which it had come across in reading it. The *Critic* also made some passing allusion to them; but it remained for the *Tribune*, in an article of four columns, to show by means of parallel passages from Macaulay's History of England, and from Rives' Life of Madison, the extent of these imitations. Mr. Mc-Masters may have taken his title from Green, his paragraphs from Rives and Macaulay, and formed his grammar on bad models, but if the above is true, his facts are at all events original.

The Sunshade, Muff and Glove:

An English translation is just ready of the beautiful book bearing the above title, by Mr. Octave Uzaune. The exquisite illustrations by Paul Avril, which were printed in various tints, have in this English edition been reproduced with all the care which so marked *L'Ombrelle*, when it first appeared from the press of Monsieur Quantin. It is one of the most beautiful books of these latter days.

The Origin and History of the Alphabet.

Mr. Isaac Taylor, whose excellent book *Words and Places* must be well-known to many of my readers, has just published a new book on the *History of the Alphabet*. Mr. Taylor is a most learned and laborious scholar, and he has here produced a work of the highest interest, it represents the labor of many years, no available source of knowledge being overlooked. The first portion is devoted to a description of what may be called the strivings of the rude and less cultivated peoples after an alphabet, the picture writings, ideograms and other primitive systems that prevailed at the dawn of history. Egyptian hieroglyphics follow, and are treated of at length as being the parent of all later systems. The great discovery of the French Savant, *Emanuel de Rougé*, of the process by which the hieroglyphic symbols became transmuted into alphabetical characters receives due acknowledgement, and in fact becomes the basis of the subsequent history. The relation of the earliest Semitic alphabet to the Hieratic writing of the new Egyptian empire, as exemplified in the famous "*Prise Papyrus*," "the most ancient of all books," is clearly shown, and it may be assumed as a cardinal fact, that the primitive Semitic alphabet was the source from which all existing alphabets have been derived. The second portion takes up the great alphabets, and passes in review those of Hellenic, Iranian and Indian origin. It is impossible to derive an idea of the extent and thoroughness of the author's researches, and the immense field he has occupied, by anything short of an examination of the work.

Rockstro's New Life of Handel:

It is curious to think of the great composer of the Oratorio of the Messiah, after his work of directing the presentation of the sacred music at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, walking to the box office and gathering into a bag the silver and gold which had been taken, lug it to his carriage, and thence home; and yet this is what Dr. Barney says Handel did every night. It is now a hundred and twenty-five years since he died, and this is the first really good biography of him which has yet appeared in the English language. This certainly is strange if, as it is herein stated by Mr. George Grove, that Handel is a name as widely known in England as the name of Shakespeare, which, however, we think cannot be true. The volume is a compact 12mo. of nearly five hundred pages, with a good portrait, from the press of Macmillan.

The New Life of the Young Pretender.

A new life of this remarkable character in English history has just appeared, written by Mr. Alexander C. Ewald. Prince Charles Stuart was grandson to James II. of England. His father resigned his claim to the throne in favor of the young Prince, who, in 1745, at the age of twenty-four, made a descent upon England by the way of Scotland. He raised an army and marched southward; at Preston Pans he met the English army which was siezed with a panic and fled. We can with difficulty understand the fright which ensued in England, and which continued until Charles was overthrown at Culloden. He fled and was secreted at various places by Miss Flora MacDonald, who disguised him as her waiting-maid and took him out of Scotland. His adventures in Scotland having occupied his time just a year. He returned to Rome, from which city he came, and died the death of a drunkard. Miss Flora MacDonald afterwards married and came to live in America, she did not live long here but returned to Scotland to die. This interesting volume possesses much interest for the general reader, on account of the great dramatic effects combined in the narrative; and likewise to the historical reader, on account of the new documentary matter it presents.

Mrs. Dahlgreen's Washington Winter:

This is a society novel, by a person who has possessed much opportunity to study character in the Capitol wherein she lives, and whereof she writes. As she has seen them, so she here describes them. As of actors in the story she writes of virtue and villiany, diplomacy, intrigue, ambition, and a sprinkle even of patient merit, for of this ancient ingredient she found just a suspicion, nothing more. It is the most promising novel so far this summer and will be largely read. It is Mrs. Dahlgreen's first attempt in this line. J. R. Osgood & Company are its publishers.

English Towns and Districts:

Under this title Mr. Edward A. Freeman has gathered several addresses, and with them some articles contributed to the magazines, and published them in a handsome octavo by Macmillan. The particular localities are Cardiff and Glamorgan in Wales, Exeter, Wareham, Chester, Glastonbury, Sussex and Northumberland. Those who are interested with the minsters, the abbeyes, or the cathedrals of England, will find in this volume much minute information not easily elsewhere found. Many illustrations and a good map are in the book.

The Land of the Lion and the Sun.

The lion and the sun are the national emblems of Persia, and as this book is about life in that country during the past fifteen years, the significance of the title becomes apparent. The author, Dr. C. J. Wills, was connected with Her Majesty's Telegraphic Department in that country for several years, and was thus afforded many opportunities for gathering information which ordinary travellers do not possess, or which they, on account of the shortness of their sojourn, cannot take advantage of. The author made long visits in the large cities of Teheran, Hamadan, Isfahan, Julfa, and Shiraz, he saw a great deal of the social life of the people, and sets forth in a clear and interesting way their peculiar characteristics. He travelled very much through the most fertile portions of the country and relates a great many interesting facts. There are many curious things in this book, I will merely call attention to one or two. The author experimented with a scorpion to learn whether it would commit suicide if confined with no chance of escape. He found it invariably stung itself to instantaneous death. His account of his repeated experiments is very interesting, only my limited space forbids transcribing them. One day in travelling they found a fellow nailed by the ear to a telegraph post; on inquiring what that was for, they found he had broken the wire, and he was nailed for thirty-six hours as a warning to others. One gets an idea that in this ancient country there is a flexibility to the criminal code unusual in some other countries, and that the administration of justice is intermittent. In Persia there are many men still in pursuit of the philosopher's stone. That's the whole secret,—they haven't kept step with the march of Time.

The Coming Books from the Harpers:

The most important book announced by this house is the *Life of James Buchanan*, by George T. Curtis. This book, unless we are misinformed, will throw some light on the dark places in the history of the beginning of the Civil War. Professor Sumner of Yale, in a book soon to be published under the name: "What Social Classes Owe to Each Other," defends the right of every man to reap all the legitimate and honorable rewards of his abilities and opportunities. Mr. William Henry Bishop, well-known to American readers by several successful books, has a new one nearly ready on Mexico and Southern California. It is well filled with wood-cuts from drawings by Mr. Bishop himself.

What Went ye Forth into the Wilderness to See?

Buy Osgood's *Maritime Provinces*, the new and thoroughly revised edition of 1883, and you can answer the question. So far as St. John, the seaport of Canada, or Halifax, the only walled city in America, or Montreal, the queen city of the St. Lawrence, are concerned, this book is equal to the occasion. Ask the Indian Squaw, who sells moccasins in the Providence railroad station, whence she came, and doubtless she will tell you Caughnawaga. She is one of the Iroquois,—one of the historic six nations about which Mr. Parkman has written so much and so well. This guide of Mr. Osgood, will tell you all about this remote Indian village, and a vast deal about other things. It is eyes to the traveller.

There are other of these Osgood's American Guides which are absolutely necessary to those who wander beside the still waters, or lie down in the green pastures, or repose in the fresh wild-woods, as they climb the mountains. There is indeed a rapture in gazing on this wondrous world of ours.

Handy Family Atlases:

At the present day there is no book more useful, in fact necessary, than an Atlas of the World. Generally these collections of maps are so large and unwieldy, and are put away so securely, that only the most persistent seeker for knowledge ever troubles the dust which so silently settles upon them. There is, however, a new English collection called *The World*. It contains thirty-four modern maps, well colored, and with a good index, small in size and easy of consultation. It has a companion, confined entirely to *Classical* references, excellent in reading Grote and Curtius, or Gibbon and Mommsen. These little books ought to be on everybody's library table. Mr. Rider has them.

Duntzer's Life of Schiller:

This new life has been translated into English by Percy E. Pinkerton. Neither the author nor the translator give any reason for this new publication. Whether new materials have been discovered to which former writers had no access we do not know. The work seems to be exhaustive, and it contains many portraits and fac-similes of documents not hitherto given, and which certainly add very much interest to the volume. Schiller was certainly the second, many people think the first, German poet, and his works are to-day more read in America than they have ever before been,—more even than the works of Goethe, and a new life will certainly be much read.

How the General Assembly Divided Itself:

In 1696 the General Assembly, which had previously acted as a single body, occupying one room, ordered itself divided into two bodies, one comprising the Governor, Deputy-Governor, and the Assistants, (now called Senators), to be styled the *Upper House*, and the Deputies (now called Representatives), to be styled the *Lower House*. The whole when acting together to be styled the Grand Committee. This important change in the structure of the government had been proposed thirty years previously; but it took that long time to change public sentiment in its favor. Rhode Island has well earned the right to be called conservative. The name *Senator* was first used in Rhode Island at the May Session, 1799, and the name *Assistant* was then abandoned.

American Books in England:

The experiment of issuing large editions of certain American periodicals in England, to wit: *Harper's The Century*, and *St. Nicholas*, must have proved to be a great success, as well it might, for there has never yet been published in England anything of the kind at all comparable to them. Not long since, Messrs. Macmillan reprinted in England one of Mrs. Burnett's stories, *Louisiana*. In this country this story was her most unsuccessful venture, but in England its success was immediate and extraordinary. Many thousand copies were sold. *Old Creole Days*, by Mr. Cable, is another American book which obtained success. It is now announced to reprint in England Mr. Richard Grant White's edition of Shakespeare. It is to be in three volumes, and at the same time an *edition de luxe* in six volumes.

Surnames as a Science:

No study is more curious than the study of names, of their derivations and probable meaning. Mr. Robert Ferguson has recently published a ratherish small volume called *Surnames as a Science*; in it there is to be found much curious information. It is difficult to understand how feminine names as now used, for instance Alice, Ella, Eva, Louisa, were formerly used entirely for the masculine gender. Who could ever have thought of applying the beautiful name Alice to a man? The corruptions of names which, as we here learn, grow out of a desire to make some kind of sense out of a name, are exceedingly numerous, and very curious. Thus a gentleman who passed in Germany under the name of Käsenthal, becomes in America Mr. Cashdollar. This is certainly very funny, and it can be found in Mr. Boyditch's *Suffolk Surnames*. The whole book is interesting.

Trial of the Glasgow Bank Directors:

The failure of this bank took place in October, 1878. An examination of its books made and finished within two weeks after its failure showed in addition to the loss of its entire capital of one million pounds, its entire surplus of four hundred and fifty thousand pounds, a further loss of upwards of five million pounds. For the mismanagement, deceit, even thefts which led to this frightful loss, the officers were placed on trial, were tried and severally punished, but very lightly. Mr. Rider has a most interesting Report of this Trial, in which are many very remarkable *fac similes* of the pages of the Ledgers showing how the frauds were hidden, and continued by the officers of the bank. It is well worth looking into by men interested in these matters. Portraits of these men, who allowed thirty-five millions of dollars to be lost or stolen, does not indicate any marked contrast between their appearance and that of other people.

The Commentaries on Shakespeare by Gervinus:

The elaborate work by this great German scholar attracted the attention of the best English scholars upon its first publication. It has passed through many editions, both in England and in Germany. Just now we have a new English edition, translated by Mr. F. E. Burnett, under the superintendence of Prof. Gervinus himself. In a translation, this is all that could be desired. This author confined his studies entirely to the ethics of Shakespeare; of his school were Coleridge and Lamb and Hazlitt. To discover those truths which lie hidden to the common eye was their endeavor, and in this endeavor no one has given more satisfaction to those best able to judge than has Prof. Gervinus. Mr. Rider has his book.

Hall's Picturesque Ireland:

This beautiful work, long difficult to find, and of high cost, has been re-issued at a very low price and must find many purchasers. It is filled with illustrations made in a style best fitted to bring out the character of the subjects illustrated. The landscapes were by the distinguished Mr. Creswick and are finely engraved on steel. While fragments of architectural grandeur, ruins of ancient castles, characteristic portraits, and natural productions of the country, which were relics of a past age, are illustrated by the wood-cut process. The maps of the counties are exceedingly good, and they, together with the seats of country-gentlemen, are by lithography and beautifully colored. The whole work is full of interest and well worthy the attention of the best book buyers. It is in three volumes.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1883.

No. 9.

Defence of Rhode Island against the MacMaster's History:

Having related in most extravagant language the passage of the infamous Paper Money Act of 1786, and the Forcing Acts which followed it, he tells in a single page the story of the Trevett suit; but he fails to state how far the decision of the court went, or what was its immediate result. He then returns to the General Assembly, the "members" of which body, he says, "went on to do the worst act of their lives." This was neither more nor less than the passage of a new forcing act, with iron clad oaths attached. Of this act Mr. MacMasters paints a terrible picture, as doubtless it would have been had any such act ever become a law. But it was simply a *proposed* law, which was drafted and sent to the towns for their approval or disapproval. There were thirty towns in the State. Twenty-seven voted against the proposed law, in several of which the vote was unanimous. Three only out of thirty voted in favor of it, and none unanimously. When the Assembly re-assembled it at once rejected the proposed law, and in December repealed all the forcing or penal acts. Originally passed in May, they were destroyed by the Superior Court in August, and repealed in December, all in the year 1786. Now all through this story Mr. MacMasters leaves the reader under the impression that this *proposed* law was a real act; until he reaches the end of his story. That the proposing of an act was worse in the Assembly than the actual passage of the obnoxious laws. This is of course absurd. Further on he makes the following reference to the Rhode Island Judiciary:

"When language failed of odious epithets to portray the finished villain, he was declared to be as contemptible as a *Know Ye Judge*." The act of May, 1786, creating the Bank, provided that if any creditor refused to receive the paper money therein created that the debtor could go to any Judge of the Superior Court of the Common Pleas, at the residence of said Judge, and deposit the amount of the debt with him. The Judge was thereupon ordered to issue a certificate in these words: "Know ye that —

of — on the — day of —, at my dwelling house at —, lodged with me the sum of — pounds, lawful money, being in full of the principal and interest of a sum of money due from the said — to —. That the said — hath in all respects complied with the law, etc. This certificate was then advertised in the papers and became a sufficient plea in bar to any action for the recovery of the money, brought by the creditor. These tenders had to be made in the counties where the debt resided. Thus a judge to whom a tender was made he calls a *Know Ye Judge*. Several of the judges refused to receive the tenders, so that the law was changed, allowing tenders to be made in any county. The epithet Mr. MacMasters used he obtained from a New Jersey newspaper. It was scurrilous at the time, and finds no proper place in any respectable history. The judges destroyed the worst features of the law as quickly as it came before them. The court did not make the law, they simply construed it. The exaggerated statements made about pillowcases filled with money being dragged to the court for the purposes of making tenders, are simply ridiculous. Most of the tenders were small, from ten to fifty pounds. Occasionally one would be larger. I have never seen one above eight hundred pounds. One now lying by me for £11.10s. weighs exactly one ounce avoirdupois. Two pounds in weight would equal a sum of £1,22s. or \$5,000. One can easily see how such a calculation reduces to the absurd all such statements. I cannot say no such tender was ever made, but I have never found one so large. The whole issue of this bank never went into circulation. A very large amount now lies in this city unfolded and uncut. Not only does this writer thus unfairly represent Rhode Island history, but many of its best things he leaves unnoticed. For instance, the act for the extinction of slavery, one of the first in New England, is not mentioned; yet it is one of which every Rhode Islander may well be proud. The name of Stephen Hopkins is obscured altogether. So on through his book that which is bad he distorts and makes worse, and that which is good he omits. So far as this State is concerned this "History" is indeed valueless, for only an expert would be able to detect the false from the true.

A Study of Rhode Island Words:

In reading the papers and pamphlets of the past century here in Rhode Island, one comes across many words which are odd. Thus a man whose overcoat was stolen from his wagon seat, announces that his *surtout* was taken from his *chair box*. Mr. Knight Dexter wishes a pair of horses for his *curricie*. A man wishes to sell his *iron finery*, meaning his forge, for presently another man sets forth the capabilities of his *new forge, or refinery of iron*. Mr. Levi Hall informs the people that he can "dress agreeable to the most improved methods *cabareater* skins." To me this is an unknown animal. The hunters in those old times called that portion of a deer's skin, on the head, contiguous to the roots of the horns, the cabbage. Whether this word comes from that source or whether it is a corruption of caribou, I know not. Two gentlemen state that they have opened a *meal market*. The word market has now come to be applied only to meats or vegetables, so far as food is concerned. Dr. Jabez Bowen announces the arrival of a general assortment of drugs, both *chymical* and *galenical*. It is certainly proper to speak politely of the weather. Thus the old chronicler speaks of a vessel lost at sea by the *rudeness* of the wind. Changes in spelling are very frequent. *Apparition*, for apparition; *credulous*, for credulous; *credible*, for creditable. Welcome Arnold advertises *osenbrigs*, now written osnaburgs, or coarse linen, so called from the town where they were first made in Germany. Mr. Benjamin Stille opened a school for the teaching of young ladies arithmetic and the art of writing, species of education which hath been much neglected of late. The hours were singular, from 6 to 7½ A. M., and 4½ to 6 P. M. This subject is exceedingly interesting, and I shall return to it from time to time as we drift away from the ancient ways. It indicates the evolution of our language.

Henry Salt and Belzoni:

Mr. Salt, an English gentleman who had travelled largely through the eastern world, was in 1815 sent Consul-General to Egypt. His friend, Sir Joseph Banks, suggested to him the advantage, personally, of collecting Egyptian antiquities and selling them to the British Museum. He entered into the scheme, employed an Italian scholar, Sig. Belzoni, who was very successful, and who in the end became famous, collected for himself the things which Mr. Salt claimed he was paid by him to find. Then a quarrel ensued, and finally peace, the British Museum getting the spoils. Mr. Rider has a fine set of Salt's life, wherein the whole story is told.

Mr. Curtis's Memoir of Buchanan:

This long expected and very important book is now published. It is in two very handsome volumes. About three-fourths of the second volume is taken up with the events which immediately preceded the inauguration of President Lincoln. Those things which will chiefly attract attention now will doubtless be the persistent efforts of Mr. Seward to throw a cloud on Buchanan's administration, the *Battery advertisement* by Mr. Stanton while in Buchanan's Cabinet, and the deep denunciation afterwards; the complete overthrow of the assertions of General Scott; the denial of the unsustained assertion of Jefferson Davis regarding Commissioners from the Confederate States; the clear statements of the President's acts in relation to Fort Sumter, and the withholding by somebody of most important dispatches from Major Anderson until President Buchanan's administration had remaining but a single hour of life; the real cause of the resignation of Secretary Floyd, and the disproof of the story of his stealing arms; the utter refutation of the anonymous diarist of the North American Review. These and a hundred other just such things will now go to correct history. It is for the best interest of everybody that the truth only should be written in our histories. He who can see only that which is bad in his political opponents is at the best a miserable fellow. If the fair fame of James Buchanan has been vindicated and defended by Mr. Curtis, every one should be glad. Harpers are its publishers.

A Curious Law concerning the price for Bread in Rhode Island:

In 1796, the General Assembly of Rhode Island made a curious law concerning the baking and sale of bread. It named the various loaves thus: the *Penny White Loaf*, the *Penny Wheaten*, and the *Penny Household*. It likewise prepared a table prescribing the weight of each loaf of each kind, covering a scale of prices of wheat ranging from three to nine shillings per bushel. Thus a penny white loaf, with wheat at three shillings must weigh eleven ounces, with wheat at nine shillings, it must weigh four ounces. About the middle of each month the Town Councils were to meet, inquire the price of wheat, fix an average price, and post it in the public places. And those who baked bread for sale must conform to it, or lose their bread. To-day in Providence a loaf of the best white bread weighs sixteen ounces, while wheat is selling at about one dollar a bushel. In the good old times whereof we write, with wheat at that price, the loaf must weigh six ounces.

Mr. Sheffield's Rhode Island Privateers:

The Hon. W. P. Sheffield, of Newport, has just issued a monograph on the Rhode Island Privateers and Privateersmen. It comprises the address delivered by him in Providence upwards of a year since, to which he has added an appendix consisting of lists of the Rhode Island privateers from 1739 to 1748, and from 1753-1762, and also a list of the privateers of the Revolution, together with their owners and commanding officers. Unfortunately only a portion of the owners are given, and the list of privateers is extended very much by the insertion of the name of the same vessel two or three times. It is likewise unfortunate that Mr. Sheffield devoted so small a portion of his address to the affairs of the Revolution. This deficiency it is the purpose of the writer to remedy in a Rhode Island Historical Tract. The Hon. John R. Bartlett, several years since, collected materials for a History of Rhode Island Privateers, and published in a Providence newspaper several articles. These have since been re-issued in a Newport newspaper, and also in Mr. Dawson's Historical Magazine. He brought his researches down to 1770. The price for Mr. Sheffield's address is 50 cents.

Lady Barker's New Zealand and South Africa:

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have recently issued two of Lady Barker's books in revised and cheaper editions. They are accounts of her residence, the one in *South Africa*, and the other in *New Zealand*. These books are so different from all other books concerning these distant and but little known lands, that they are worthy of attention. He who reads them in the expectation of finding strained and exaggerated accounts of unheard-of adventures, will be mistaken. On the contrary, they are the most quiet, simple and refreshing accounts of a lady's life in these remote regions. In neither book is there a dull or stupid page. Every incident is neatly described, and when one finishes the books, which are well printed in a large clear type, one feels that he has learned something about the scenes described.

Inter Folia Fructas:

Fruit between the leaves. That is the motto for a good book, such for instance as Hayden's Dictionary of Dates, notwithstanding it says the Rhode Island Society of Cincinnati was dissolved in 1804, when as a matter of fact it was not chartered until 1814, and it had held until that time, as the Charter relateth, an unchartered existence.

A Protective Tariff applied to Labor in Rhode Island:

The idea of protecting labor by putting a tariff on everything which the laborer eats or drinks or wears, never entered the heads of the old fellows who busied themselves in making the colonial laws for Rhode Island. It was their habit in a preamble to assign a reason for the law which followed it. So in 1711 they levied a duty on negroes. The object was plainly stated to be the protection of home labor. There was no dissembling. They said directly the bringing of negroes into this colony discourages the importing of white servants herein, and will in time prove prejudicial to the inhabitants unless discouraged. They thereupon levied an import duty of three pounds a head on each negro imported, to protect the white labor already here. The wisdom of their policy is apparent at a glance.

Keith Johnston's Physical Atlas:

Mr. Rider has Rufus Choate's copy of this excellent work for sale. His autograph is on the first leaf, and distinctly legible. This volume has most beautifully engraved maps, illustrating the geological structure of the globe, the mountain chains of every country, the river systems, distribution of birds, animals and reptiles, rain maps, and maps of isothermal lines, etc., to the number of twenty-four. Carefully written descriptions accompany these maps, making them clear and easy of comprehension. Almost limitless is the amusement and instruction to be drawn from them. In illustration of the food maps: Humboldt says of the banana that it was originally an Asiatic fruit, that it was exotic in the West Indies, where now it grows in such profusion. That in a given extent of ground one can produce forty-four times as much nutritive matter from it than from the potato, or one hundred and three times as much as of wheat.

Denham and Clapperton:

The discovery of Lake Tchad by these enterprising travellers was an event which we learned from our old school geography, and which filled us with delight and wonder. Travelling in Africa was then an unknown science, no guide books had been made, and these men were in a sense pioneers. On their return to England a beautiful edition of their narrative was published, in which were many most beautifully engraved copper-plates, from the celebrated engraver, Finden. Since this expedition there have been many others into Africa, but among them all none inspired greater confidence in the information gathered, than did this of Denham and Clapperton. Mr. Rider has a copy of their Travels in excellent condition.

The Good Knight without Fear, and without Reproach.

Unique among biographies is the History of the Chevalier Bayard, by the Loyal Serviteur. Southey says of Bayard that perhaps no other person who acted so unimportant a part in the world ever acquired so wide, or so just a renown. Bayard was born in Grenoble, in France, in 1474, and was killed by a ball from an arquebuse, in the retreat from Robecco, in 1524. One of his archers in 1527 printed this history, anonymously, using the pseudonyme, *Le Loyal Serviteur*, now generally acknowledged to be Jacques de Mailles. The use of the word loyal in this connection leads to reflection that in Bayard's time the term patriotic had not found its way into the dictionaries. Not long before this Philip de Commines had transferred his allegiance from Charles the Bold, to his enemy, Louis the Eleventh, in consideration for so much money paid to him by the latter Prince. All the details covering which, de Commines himself relates with perfect *sang froid*. But Bayard would fight under no other flag than that of his Prince. He was a brave and loyal gentleman, the purest man of his time. He was the greyhound in assault, the wild boar in defence, the wolf in retreat. And it was the irony of fate, that having spent his life in jousts and tournaments with the mace, the sword, and the lance, he should at last fall by a musket ball, a weapon just then coming into use, and looked upon by him as being beneath the character of a gentleman to use. A new and beautifully illustrated edition of this most interesting book has recently been issued in England. Mr. Rider has it.

The Surrender of Metz by Bazaine:

We read the newspapers, day by day, and we think that by that ephemeral way we obtain a clear and vivid idea of the history of the world. There can be no greater mistake. The rapidity with which events succeed each other renders it utterly impossible for the human mind to obtain in this way and retain anything like accurate historical knowledge. This idea was vividly presented recently by an examination of *Muller's Political History of Recent Times*, with reference to the surrender of the city of Metz by Marshal Bazaine, even so recently as 1870. The authentic histories of all the wars ever waged in the world will be searched in vain for a parallel to this surrender. There were three marshals, six thousand officers, and one hundred and seventy-three thousand men; and of the material of war there were 66 mitrailleurs, 1,541 cannon, of which 541 were field artillery, and 300,000 muskets. We read all this in the newspapers, but how soon we forget all about it. Muller's book is published by the Harpers, and is sold by the writer.

Mrs. Woolson's "Anne."

The *Academy* of the current week gives an excellent review of this American novel, which it commends thus: "We venture to say that *Anne* is one of the most remarkable works of fiction that has appeared for many years, both for the animation of its plot, and the great variety of its character. It occupies a place midway between the old American novel of incident, and the modern American novel of analysis." This is certainly very high and very just criticism. The entire English press condemns the never ending refinement of analysis of character in the novels of Mr. Howells and Mr. Henry James, Jr., as being tiresome beyond endurance. This criticism is true, not because it is English, but because the bookseller sees it in his business. *Anne* is excellent. Harpers publish it, and Mr. Rider has it.

The Invisible Lodge:

Less than a year ago, as Charles T. Brooks sent to the publisher the last sheets of his translations of Richter's Romance of the *Invisible Lodge*, he wrote "on the 14th of the month following (Oct., 1825), the hand that penned these lines (the preface to the story) was cold in death." Even so soon, the translator has followed the author. This translation is the first in the English language of this novel of Richter's, and was, as Mr. Brooks tells us, the forerunner of Richter's most important romances. It possesses peculiar literary interest because its author wove into it much of the spirit, and indeed many incidents of his own biography. Mrs. Lee, in her Memoir of Richter, has related the joy which filled his heart as he bounded home to his mother with the \$250 (immense sum he then thought) which he received for this romance. Messrs. Henry Holt & Co. are its publishers.

Fancy Dresses Described:

The very popular little book by Mr. Arden Holt, now in its third edition, has recently been enriched with sixteen colored plates. These plates are to a certain extent historic. Among these are a magnificent court costume of Marguerite, of Valois, and another superb costume of Mary, Queen of Scots, and still another of Marie Stuart. Mrs. Langtry's costume in the character of Miss Harcastle, from *She Stoops to Conquer*. The Drama is also represented in the very extraordinary costume of Peg Woffington. Among the fancy costumes, the most striking is that of the Hornet, which attracted so much attention at the Vanderbilt reception, where one of the Vanderbilt ladies wore it. *Rouge et Noir* is another very peculiar and beautiful dress. The dresses of the Peasant girls of Normandy, Italy and Switzerland are bewitchingly beautiful.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1883.

No. 10.

Margaret Fuller's School.

A new life of Margaret Fuller, written by Julia Ward Howe, is announced for immediate publication by Roberts Brothers, of Boston. A generation has been born and has grown to manhood since this distinguished woman lived in Providence and kept the famous Green street school. It may not be uninteresting, therefore, in calling attention to the advent of this new book, to revive some of the memories of this school from a diary kept by one of the scholars, Miss Ann Frances Brown. June 12, 1837, this young girl makes the following entry: "To-day, Mr. Fuller (Hiram, the brother of Margaret), commenced keeping school in the long anticipated new school-house. The building was dedicated last Saturday, June 10th, at the Rev. Mr. Farley's meeting-house as there would not be enough (room) in the school-house to accommodate all that would wish to come; a discourse was delivered by Rev. R. W. Emerson, the same gentleman that wrote a book called 'Nature' from which Mr. Fuller sometimes read when he kept school in Mathewson street. I should like to give some description of the school-house if I thought I could do it justice, but probably almost everyone in Providence has heard of, if they have not seen, the Green street Academy. There has not been any lessons recited to-day; and only one or two classes formed. We have a Piano Forte, and some of the young ladies played on it. The number of scholars has greatly increased, perhaps there are more than fifty young ladies, besides the boys (I forgot, I should have said young gentlemen) in the hall. We were dismissed a little before twelve o'clock, and came again at three, in the afternoon. Miss Fuller formed a class in History, and in Latin. Mr. Fuller read to us a beautiful little piece, which, though it has been read many times, will bear reading many times again. It was called 'We are Seven,' by Wordsworth.

It begins:—

A simple child
That lightly draws its breath
And feels its life in every limb,
What should it know of death?

and closes:—

But they are dead: these two are dead:
Their spirits are in Heaven.

"While Mr. Fuller was reading it, our clock struck and he had to stop until it had finished striking. Then he said it would be better to have it strike only once at each hour, but afterwards, he continued, that, as the clock was the only thing which was allowed to strike at the school, it might continue to enjoy that privilege. Thus ends this happy day." With the exception of the introduction of the lines from Wordsworth, this is as the young girl wrote it. Before the removal of the school to Green street, there had been three teachers. Miss Fuller, Mr. Hiram Fuller, and Miss Aborn, (now Mrs. Benjamin White). At Green street came Mrs. Nias, making the fourth. She came as a teacher of drawing, and of the French language. October 30th, 1837, Miss Brown writes: "As I came to school this morning the surrounding air stole much heat from my body, especially my feet which were cold a long time after I entered the hall." This entry is exceedingly characteristic of the teachings of style in composition by both Mr. and Miss Fuller. It is remarkable how quickly this girl adopted it. Perhaps one of the most amusing entries in the *Journal* is under the date of November 24, 1837, on the occasion of a visit from John Neal: Mr. Neal, who had not long before published, anonymously, a volume of poems entitled the *Battle of Niagara*, by John O'Cataraet. Mr. Neal took the opportunity to present to the school, in a talk of an hour and a half, a chapter of his autobiography. This is so different from the one subsequently given by him, with which we are familiar, that we reproduce it. Miss Brown says:

"Mr. Neal, a lawyer from Portland, is now in this city. He was invited by Mr. Fuller to visit the school which he addressed. After he had talked to us some time about the destiny of women, etc., he gave us an account of his life which Mr. Fuller tells us has been one of great struggle between the passions of his soul, and of the flesh. At the age of four or five years (weeks) John was left fatherless

with a twin sister. His mother supporting them by teaching. When John was twelve years old he became a shop-keeper, and was much distinguished as such because he told so many lies, and deceived customers about the quality and quantity of goods his master sold. His master allowed him no pocket money, and to supply this deficiency he stole what he wanted. He was engaged subsequently, in several kinds of business, which he diversified by rolling ninepins and drinking brandy, at first with considerable water and sugar in it, but gradually diminished the quantity of the two latter ingredients. Once he set up as a merchant with a capital of two dollars. Another time he was a writing and drawing teacher. At the age of twenty-six he says he left off drinking, and since that time he has only taken about ten teaspoonfuls of brandy and that as medicine. Since that time he obtained a living by writing. Sometimes writing as many as seventy-five pages of letter paper in a day. He finally determined to become a lawyer and to that end devoted his studies. During this same period he learned six languages, studying them all at the same time. Thus, by steady perseverance, he became what he is, as Mr. Fuller says, a remarkable genius, whose life illustrates the fact that *great men are not born great*. The temptation to continue these extracts, is almost irresistible, but my space is very limited. There must be many people in Providence who will gladly welcome Mrs. Howe's new life of Miss Fuller, whom many now living here must have known.

Mrs. Dahlgren's Washington Winter:

This story is, in some respects, the best novel of this summer. The plot consists of the lively evolutions of the Russian Minister, Skerowski, in intriguing to prevent a proposal of marriage by the young Russian Prince, Nickolaus, to a beautiful American girl, Anabel Wilton. This young gentleman had been imported by the minister for the express purpose of marrying him to his own daughter, but Miss Wilton came near upsetting all his plans, innocently enough on her part, for she did not know that he had any. However, the wily minister triumphed in the end, so far as the Young Prince was concerned, but Anabel Wilton found a young American husband whom she loved well and lived long and happily. Some of the character sketches are exceedingly clever, they must have been careful studies from life, particularly Spangler, a Senator, and Ignotus, a member of the Lobby. The novel will repay reading, because in reading it, one cannot help thinking that it is a leaf freshly cut from the book of nature. Osgood & Co. are its publishers and Mr. Rider sells it.

A Newport Society Novel:

An English adventurer turns up in Newport, the beautiful city by the sea, in search of a fortune. Should there be a beautiful young woman attached to the fortune, she would be no serious obstacle. On the most flimsy of introductions, the Hon. Cuthbert Larkington obtains at once the *entrée* to the fashionable society of this famous old town. In following the phantom which these people pursue, called pleasure, he drives on Bellevue avenue and along Kay street. He sits on the cosy piazzas of the Casino, of which in Chapter 5th there is a good description; he rests in the secluded alcoves of the Redwood; he plays polo, on borrowed ponies; and rides upon imaginary fox hunts; he makes love or that which passes for love to beautiful women; and finally captures, or thinks he has captured, an heiress. But instead then a handsome cousin of hers gets back to Newport from a visit to Cheyenne. By a lucky accident he discovers the real character of the Hon. Cuthbert, who, in consideration of this unfortunate discovery, concludes to leave Newport before daylight the next morning. A ride by the two mile corner and out into the open country follows, continued until the cousins reach the distant city of Fall River, where a friendly parson marries the happy couple. It ends in a runaway match, but it is a happy ending, notwithstanding. The get up of the volume is particularly happy. A good picture of the Casino ornaments the title page, while the Dampplings and the Old Stone Mill do service upon the cover. It is just ready by Roberts Brothers, and Mr. Rider sells it. *A Newport Aquarelle* is the name of the story.

Auerbach's Master Bieland:

Berthold Auerbach was a German Jew, chiefly known to English readers as the author of "*On the Heights*," a novel, and perhaps better still by his "*Village Tales of the Black Forest*." He died quite recently. Among the manuscript left by him was a completed story which he called *Master Bieland*. It has just been translated and published by Henry Holt & Co., in their popular Leisure Moment series, and also in their Leisure Hour series. The story is founded on the conversations and discussions of Master Bieland, who is a shoemaker, and his friends and companions in similar positions in life. The period is that immediately following the Franco-German war, when the German Empire was undergoing a transformation, and the peasant, as well as the prince, was struggling to improve their political situations. In *Master Bieland*, it is chiefly the rights of the working-men, and such like matters that form the plot of the story. All Auerbach's novels are published by Henry Holt & Co., and sold by Mr. Rider.

A Poetical Translation of Virgil made in Rhode Island:

Mr. Erastus Richardson, a young man confined by his daily labor in the counting-house of one of the largest manufacturing establishments in Rhode Island, denied the advantages of collegiate study, yet pursued the study of the classics in the quiet of his own home, and in his own spare hours. He made and has now published (in Woonsocket) a poetical translation of the first six books of Virgil (Virgil as some now write it). Few men, possibly not half a dozen, have heretofore published such a book. Of these, the translation called Dryden's was long considered the only one worthy of mention. Recently Mr. Comington has made one which has been very highly commended. No other poetical translations are worth mentioning. Of the *prose* translations there are two. First, Mr. Davidson's, which is very literal, and takes the lead, or has always held it; and much more recently Mr. Comington has made one. It is said the task of making a good poetical translation is difficult. At all events from some cause but few have been attempted. The wonder is that this young man, confined to his counting-house desk in a Rhode Island manufacturing village, should ever have attempted it. As to its merits, compared with its few predecessors, it is too early to speak. But its appearance is good. Mr. Rider will gladly supply it to such as desire to have it.

How to buy the Works of the English Poets:

To purchase and keep in one's own library, the complete works of the English Poets as they have hitherto been published, in long sets, if it does not exhaust the finances, must strain to the utmost the space, which any but the most affluent can devote to that department of Literature. Under the circumstances, we are reduced to buying Anthologies. Many of these have been made. Harpers publish one, the range of which is exceedingly large. It includes both English and American poets. Another, edited by Mr. Ward, has been issued by Macmillan. It is in four volumes, well edited, and altogether a convenient and most useful book. A new one is just announced by the Scribners, to be edited by W. J. Linton, and R. H. Stoddard. It is to be comprised in five volumes. The publishers claim for it, that it shall be not only the most comprehensive, but it shall be absolutely the most accurate, so far as purity of text is concerned, of any edition yet made. Mr. Linton, who is well known to many people in Rhode Island, has spent the last year in the British museum, verifying the text for this book. Full notes explain the garbled texts which have hitherto been frequently used.

Captain Parker's Recollections:

Captain Parker entered the U. S. Navy as a midshipman in 1841, became a Lieutenant in 1855, and on the breaking out of the Rebellion in 1861, resigned his commission and entered the Navy of the confederate states, and served until the end of the war without the loss of a day. Here was a quarter of a century of continuous service in various parts of the world, on the coast of Africa, cruising in the Pacific, on the Brazilian coast, among the West India Islands.

But chiefly these recollections are interesting from their details of the operations of the U. S. Navy in the war with Mexico, especially the captures of Tampico, and Vera Cruz, and in the war of the Rebellion, for the operations of the Confederate Navy. The Captain was present at the fight between the Monitor and the Merrimac, at the Battle of Roanoke Island, he was in the attack of the Confederate iron-clad on the U. S. Fleet at Charleston, and, in fact, he served as Captain in every naval engagement of any magnitude during the whole war. At the evacuation of Richmond he was selected to take charge of the Confederate Treasure, which he delivered safely to the Acting Secretary, in South Carolina, exactly one month later. Captain Parker writes, as he talks, in a simple, unpretending style, which adds much strength to the story, and his *Recollections*, which are to be published by Scribner, will be awaited with much interest by his Rhode Island friends.

The Re-Publication of Mr. Gardiner's Histories:

Mr. Samuel Rawson Gardiner, who has for some years been engaged in writing a History of England in Epochs or Periods, is about to republish them in a uniform set in monthly volumes. The first period covered is that from the occasion of James the First to the outbreak of Civil War, 1603-1640. This volume is now ready. These books have been gradually winning their way to public favor, and they are now considered by scholars to be among the most painstaking and trustworthy books of their class. He is of the school of Stubbs and Freeman, never, as Mr. Adams well says, "allowing his enthusiasm to gain dominion over his judgment." His history will, when finished, be practically a History of the Stuarts. The subjects treated thus far are the accession of James the First to the Disgrace of Lord Chief Justice Coke. Prince Charles and the Spanish Marriage. England under the Duke of Buckingham and Charles the First. And the Personal Government of Charles the First.

Mary Lamb:

Mary was the sister of Charles Lamb. Early in her womanly life, in a moment of insane delirium, she seized a knife from the dining table, and stabbed her mother unto death. Charles, her brother, almost stunned by the fatal blow, had his sister kindly cured for until she recovered. But ever after she was a ceaseless care to him; and melancholy always rested upon her. She was the one object above all things else in this world which her brother loved. Frequent, through all his writings, and most touching, are his references to her. One of the *Essays of Elia*, Mackery End in Hertfordshire, is entirely devoted to her, wherein, under the name Bridget Elia, his housekeeper, he most charmingly describes her. His account of her education has always seemed to me an admirable pattern. "She was," he says, "tumbled early by accident or design into a spacious closet of good old English reading without much selection or prohibition, and browsed at will upon that fair and wholesome pasturage." Mary, jointly with her brother, was the author of one of the best books for young children ever written, the *Tales from Shakespeare*. Her memoir, never before written, is just now ready from the press of Roberts Brothers. It is written by Anne Gilchrist, and forms the fourth in the Famous women series.

Ik Marvel's Books:

Some thirty years or more ago, there was published a book under the name of the *Reveries of a Bachelor*, by Ik Marvel. The author was, of course, anonymous. The book was at once popular, and it had a large and long continued sale. Its success induced the young author to follow it with other books, to all of which the literary public gave a hearty welcome. Several of these books, have for some time, been out of print, and the growing demand has induced the Scribners to republish them. The author, Mr. Donald G. Mitchell, now in the maturity of his literary life, gives to them his final touches, and sends them forth to be welcomed by a new generation of readers, to whom they will doubtless be as welcome as they were to the former generation. Three or four new volumes are to be added to the series. The types long since worn out are to be replaced with new ones, and the new books will be not only good, but they will be beautiful.

Mrs. Oliphant's latest novel, *Sir Tom*, appears in the Franklin Squares. There are those who think it is one of the best yet written by this voluminous author. It only costs twenty cents for he who has read her previous stories to make up his own opinion as to the fact.

Among the books announced as forth coming by Charles Scribner's Sons, is a series of lectures to the students at Princeton, on the *Scriptural idea of man*, by Mark Hopkins. An essay on the *Wisdom of Goethe*, by Professor Blackie, and a republication of *The Middle Kingdom*, by S. W. Williams. This latter book was first published by the late Mr. John Wiley, some thirty-five years ago. It was then thought to be one of the best of books concerning the Chinese Empire and the Chinese people. Times and things change slowly there, nevertheless it would seem as if some new notes should now be added to a book of this class, which has slept upwards of a third of a century.

A magazine of art, is indeed the September Harper. Take the article on the Catskills. It is illustrated with a dozen wood cuts of surpassing beauty. A score of years ago a gift book with such things would have commanded at least five dollars, and here one gets them for 50 cents with all the other matter thrown in gratis. Harper's Magazine is indeed a marvel. The editor's Easy Chair papers are worth more than is asked for the whole book, moreover they are written by a Rhode Island man which is an additional reason why we should like them.

The second of the series of Swedish stories by Prof. Topelius, under the general title of *The Surgeon's Stories*, is just ready by Jansen McClurg & Co., of Chicago. It is *Times of Battle and of Rest*. The first related to the Times of Gustavus Adolphus, 1594-1636. The new volumes cover the times of Charles X., and Charles XI., 1656-1697. The whole subject, as here treated, is altogether new to the class to which these admirable books are well adapted. They are popular stories into which is interwoven the history and the social life of the Swedes.

Professor Sylvanus P. Thompson has just published in England, a life of Philip Reis, the inventor of the Telephone. If the invention by Reis can be established, what becomes of the Gray and Bell patents?

Messrs. Macmillan & Co., announce that they have issued 18,000 copies of *Mr. Isaacs* and 15,000 copies of *Dr. Chandius*. The author of these two novels is a son of Crawford, the sculptor, and a nephew of Julia Ward Howe.

Lewis Carroll, (pseudonym of L[ewis] C[arroll] Dodgson), the author of *Alice in Wonderland*, a most popular child book, has just ready a new one, entitled *Rhyme? and Reason?* Published by Macmillan & Co.

The New York *Tribune* devotes eight columns to a review of Mr. Curtis's Life of James Buchanan.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

CONCERNING BOOKS FOR SALE BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

AGENT,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1883.

No. 11.

Travelling from New York to Boston, via Providence in 1832:

There is no class of books more amusing than the accounts of their travels in America by the Englishmen of half a century since. The self same books at which our grandfathers became so angry. A Colonel Hamilton, who once wrote a novel called *Cyril Thornton*, which, for a day, was popular, but which is now never heard of, wrote one of these amusing books of Travel. He says of the Arcade "that it is the only building which makes any attempt at architectural display. It is faced at either extremity with an Ionic portico. Judging by the eye the shaft of the columns is in the proportion of the Grecian Doric, an order beautiful in itself, but which, of course, is utterly barbarized by an Ionic entablature." Colonel Hamilton came to Providence in a steam-boat, the "Chancellor Livingston," in December, 1832. Of the boat or its passage he gives no account, but of the passengers he gives a very picturesque description, which is really laughable—doubtless it was a photograph. The passengers were all huddled together in the cabin. Two huge red hot stoves heated the cabin almost to suffocation, while the atmosphere was redolent of fish, grease, onions; people engaged in a fierce dispute about the tariff; one fellow snoring at a terrific rate, still another just with his breeches off and ready to get into bed, sees a friend to whom he has to stop and describe a lucky speculation in train oil, he has just got out of. Colonel Hamilton departed from Providence in a stage-coach, a species of vehicle of which there were eight or ten waiting on the dock, the arrival of the boat. His description of this conveyance is really delightful. "It was of ponderous proportions, built with timbers, attached by enormous straps to certain massive irons, which nothing in the motion of the carriage would induce the traveller to mistake for springs. The sides were simply curtains of leather, through which the winds whistle. If exhibited as a specimen of a fossil carriage, buried since the Deluge, and lately discovered by Professor Buckland, it might pass without question as the family coach in which

Noah conveyed his establishment to the Ark. Then the Jehu! a man in rusty black with the appearance of a retired grave-digger. Never was such a coachman seen within the limits of the four seas." That is doubtless the best description of those old coaches ever written. His description of raising a house by means of wedges to build a story beneath, describes a plan now obsolete. About this same time there was kept in Providence a Mercantile News Room, in which Sylvester Southworth made in a large blank book a daily record. Under the date of August 18, 1831, just fifty-two years ago, he chronicles the arrival of the steamboat "Benjamin Franklin," Captain E. S. Bunker, 17 hours from New York with \$500,000 in specie, and 140 passengers, among whom were Amory Chapin, Charles Dyer, Esq., Charles Dyer, Jr., and lady, and several distinguished foreigners.

My Recollections of the Circuit:

An address delivered by the Right Honorable Sir John Taylor Coleridge, Lord Chief Justice of England, is now in press and will be shortly published by the publisher of these "BOOK NOTES."

Altiora Peto:

Those who remember the pleasure they had with the *Tender Recollections* of Irene Macgillcuddy, will hail with delight a new book by the same writer, Mr. Laurence Oliphant. Two young American girls, with their keeper, broke loose in Paris. They were cousins, one was rich, and one was not. They exchanged names. This proceeding rather disturbed the normal conditions, for the girl that was not rich got all the beaux. Their wild and uncouth manners and rude speech, become, in the hands of the author, delightful satire. And the way they played it on the aforesaid beaux, was, as Bill Nye said of the Heathen Chinee, *peculiar*. The story is capital. It appears in two forms, both by Harper, one in the regular Franklin Square, and the other in the new 12 mo. size, which cannot be too highly praised.

Mr. Gardner's History of England:

Both the first and second volumes of this admirable work are now issued, and I am now able to describe more accurately the changes which have been made. Twenty years have elapsed since these volumes were written. In that time Mr. Spedding edited and published his edition of the works of Francis Bacon. It is safe to say that hereafter no history of England will be written, covering Bacon's time, say from 1600 to 1626, without drawing heavily upon Mr. Spedding's labors. Other studies by special students have rendered it necessary to re-write nearly the whole of the first portion of the first volume, and the work now stands as the most advanced landmark of the most careful student of English History. It is the result of the labors of many hands. One of the most interesting chapters in these volumes is that wherein is narrated the Great Contract between James the First and the House of Commons, whereby the King consented to surrender these rights connected with the Feudal Tenure, which were then so oppressive to the English people, in return for the supplies which the House of Commons voted to his use. It was in this great contest that Cowell's Interpreter, the first law dictionary in the English language, was condemned and burned, for saying, among other frightful things, "that subsidies were granted by Parliament in consideration of the King's goodness in waving his absolute power to make laws without their consent." This was almost treason. The book was burned. There is in the writer's possession a copy of Cowell's book, the edges of which appear to have been scorched by fire. Is it no more than a fond illusion to suppose this copy to have been one rescued from the hangman's hands on the fiery fields of Smithfield?

A Birds Eye View of Our Civil War:

The events of the war have been served up to us in every form of detail. Several general histories have been written, some very good, but in general, very poor. Here promises to be a good one by Colonel Dodge, a tried soldier, and a careful writer, he has written a complete summary of military events, battles, sieges, and strategic movements, covering the entire period from 1861 to 1865, the end. This work is to be in a single octavo volume, with such maps and illustrations, as are required for a proper understanding of the text, with none thrown in for mere clap trap. This enables the publishers Messrs. J. R. Osgood & Co., to put the work at such price that everybody can buy it.

Thicker than Water:

By James Payne is complete in the Franklin Square.

Books for the Coming Holidays:

First in field for the coming holidays is Roberts Brothers, with a list of four new books, or new illustrated editions of old books. I. *Gray's Elegy*, with thirty designs by Harry Fenn, drawn expressly for this edition. Many of the illustrations are from Stoke Poges, the scene of the Poem. This pretty book contains the three stanzas rejected by the poet subsequently to the publications of the first edition. Mr. Gray's reasons for rejecting them are also given. These reasons appear to us valid in the case of one stanza only, and that the two others should have been retained. They are quite equal to the other stanzas. Here is one of them written by Mr. Gray for the fourth stanza:

"Hark! how the sacred calm that breathes
around,
Bids every fierce, tumultuous passion cease
In still, small accents whispering from the
ground,
A grateful earnest of eternal peace."

Surely a place for such a stanza should have been found in this fine poem. II. *The High Tide*, by Jean Ingelow, with forty original designs, expressly for this edition, by Church and other artists, and engraved by Andrew. III. *Lead Kindly Light*, by John Henry Newman, the best writer of the English language now living. The illustrations, by W. St. John Harper and George Halm, are engraved by Andrew. It is printed with alternate pages of black and brown inks. IV. *Good Night and Good Morning*, by Lord Houghton, the Richard Monckton Milnes, of a former generation. Etchings and Illuminations, by Walter Seven, form its illustrations.

On the Fertilization of Flowers:

One of the most curious and interesting scientific books recently issued is Muller's researches on the *Fertilization of Flowers*. The book is of German origin, translated into English, very much enlarged, and with an introduction by Mr. Charles Darwin. The book comprises an immense amount of original observation on the part played by insects in the fertilization of flowers. The perfections of the adaptations by which insects are forced, unconsciously on their part, to carry pollen from the stamens of one plant to the stigma of another, is most carefully described both by the text, and by wood cuts. Thousands of plants are introduced to show just how the insect is obliged to perform his part. The author, however, does not stop with insects, but he describes every other known process, birds, the winds, and self-fertilization. The book is a perfect marvel of industry and cool research, and must open a new world of thought to many minds. It is published by Macmillan, and Mr. Rider has it.

Eternal Vigilance is the Price of Liberty:

It will probably pass without question that Thomas M. Cooley, a Judge in Michigan, is the most learned writer on constitutional law, now living, at least in this country. He has written two treatises on this subject, which are to-day the accepted authorities. He has in the *September North American*, an article on the Right of the State to Regulate Corporate Profits. In the course of his inquiry he discusses to some extent, in the light of the present conditions of things, Chartered Rights, Vested Rights, and the Eminent Domain. He speaks in weighty sentences of the way in which Legislatures have played with these fundamental principles in the interest of Railroads, Telegraphs, Telephones, Water Works, and sundry other private schemes, and he questions whether a Legislature with authority to tamper with corporate powers, is not less to be feared than a Legislature with authority to grant irrevocable franchises and privileges. There are men here in Rhode Island who should read this paper and give the question some thought. Here, charters are annually tossed to hungry applicants with thoughtless consideration as to their ultimate results, and the use of the Eminent Domain is invoked to the utter destruction of Private rights. Mr. Rider takes subscriptions for the *North American*, or will supply numbers.

A Plea for the Rights of the Rich:

After having his ears deafened by the cry that there are great social problems immediately before us, which demand answers, and being assured by oracles, threats and warnings, of dire destruction in case these problems remain unanswered, Professor Sumner, of Yale, in a little book just from the press of the Harpers, entitled *What Social Classes Owe to Each Other*, proceeds to consider both questions, and answers. He finds that, in spite of all talk to the contrary, there are classes of people. Even in these United States, at all events there are two classes, the poor, and the rich, and this treatise is an attempt to define the rights of the rich, as against the poor, and to urge for the rich some consideration of these rights. Before I had examined this book I had never known the blessings of poverty, even then I failed to find much consolation in their possession. There are indeed grave questions confronting us. How they are to be answered Omnipotence alone can inform us. This book can never tell us. It only awakens the mind to notice more clearly the evils which everybody knows to exist, and which nobody seems to be able to alleviate.

A new and uniform edition of the works of Dean Stanley is to be published in monthly volumes by Mr. John Murray.

The Rift Through the Cloud:

The recent publication of the "Real Lord Byron," written by Mr. Jeaffreson, has awakened an immense interest in the great poet. First-class writers in England have entered into the discussion, and it really seems as if the darkness which has hitherto settled like a pall over the private life of this, the greatest poet of this century, was at last to be dissipated by the new light now being thrown upon it. The *London Athenaeum* of this week comes to us laden with letters now for the first time made public, and for which this prominent literary authority makes very high claim. It says: "We think the time has come when the scandalous legends that have sullied the fair fame of the poet, his wife, and his sister, should be finally dissipated and in the belief that no one can rise from the perusal of these letters without feeling that the stories long current are base lies, we present them." With these letters in existence, and their bearing upon the question known, it seems incredible that Mrs. Stowe's infamous book was not throttled at its birth. Still its better late, than never, let us be thankful.

Camps in Cowboyland:

Those men who have invested large sums of money in uncouth herds of cattle, running wild on the vast plains in the far west, will find a most interesting bit of reading in one of Mr. W. Baillie Grohman's chapters in his recent book, *Camps in the Rockies*. It is the one on his Camps in Cowboyland, and is a most graphically written account of the lives and adventures of the active men who watch these vast herds on the plains, and gather them in. Some men never see anything, Mr. Grohman is not of that kind. Other men see enough, but cannot describe what they see, neither is Mr. Grohman of that kind. He knows both how to observe, and how to describe. His book is full of interest. He hunted the Beaver, the Big Horn, the Wapiti, and every thing else that runs wild in the west, and herein tells us capital stories. Mr. Rider has his book.

Lord Ronald Gower, in his *Reminiscences*, describes a visit to Longfellow. The visiting party left New York at ten o'clock at night, breakfast in Boston, ride to Cambridge, visit Longfellow, return to Boston, and take midday train for New York. Rather an extended visit that—he possibly might have seen the poet sixty minutes. He describes one of the historic chambers and then relates, "here his *Outre Mer*, the first series of the poems that made his name known throughout the world of literature, was penned." Hitherto we had not supposed *Outre Mer* was a poem.

By the Gate of the Sea:

A new Franklin Square.

The Use of the Study of Mythology:

The constant references in the poetical, and in fact in all our literature, demands a knowledge of these myths and legends of Greece and Rome. A good Classical Dictionary is indispensable in every intelligent household, but, beyond all this there ought to be in every family library some well written book, which gives the story more in detail, of Jupiter and Juno, of Minerva and Mercury, of Venus and Vulcan, than these ponderous dictionaries can give. Moreover these stories are interesting and they form pleasant reading. Such a book is Seeman's *Mythology of Greece and Rome*, with special reference to its use in art. Its price is only 60 cents. The picture of the "Head of Niobe" in it is worth all that.

There is no book this summer which is so well worth reading as Anne Gilchrist's *Memoir of Mary Lamb*. The subject of insane paroxysms during her whole life she was the constant care of her brother Charles, as she was also his constant delight. Coleridge speaks of walking in the fields one day and meeting them hand in hand, both crying like children. She knew one of her paroxysms was approaching and she started for the hospital, led by Charles, both crying as they went. And then this book takes you into such delightful society. There was Coleridge, and Sarah Stoddard. There were Hazlitt and Holcroft, and Charles Lloyd and Dorothy Wordsworth, and a host of others of the brightest and best of this literary coterie. There is indeed companionship in books. Buy this book and make the acquaintance of these people. Mr. Rider has it.

A correspondent of the *Nation* characterizes the "BOOK NOTE" criticisms of McMaster's as microscopie. This was doubtless because only two of the numerous errors were exposed. If all the errors had been exposed he would have probably decided that the criticisms were telescopic. Had the BOOK NOTES maintained that a wrong coloring had been given to the acts of the people, he would have pronounced the criticisms spectroscopic; had the BOOK NOTES thrown all its specifications, which in detail were microscopie, into a single charge, this correspondent would, without doubt, have pronounced them stereoscopic. There's no satisfying this fellow. He must be an optic.

Physically, when we speak of a man as in a feverish condition, he is sick to a greater or less degree. Why may not literature follow the same law? And if it does follow the same law, ought we not to discourage the intense, the sensational, the startling? Yet, in Cincinnati, they have recently established a *Sturding Facts Publishing Company*.

The Best Book of Fiction:

A correspondent of the *Literary World*, writing from Chicago, concerning an inquiry as to which was the best work of fiction, urges the claims of *Ben Hur*, by Gen. Lew Wallace. The writer maintains that no book since *Leahoe* is at all worthy to be placed along side of it. Hitherto we had not looked upon *Leahoe* as being the best of Scott's novels. True the *Antiquary* was written before *Leahoe*, but for a subtle delineation of character, and a most carefully drawn plot, worked out in its minutest details, with the care and skill of a master, give us the *Antiquary*, and then the sparkling wit, even Sir Walter could write but one such book. *Ben Hur* has indeed taken a strong hold on the present generation of readers. It has been many times "out of print." It is in fact so now. But Messrs. Harper & Brothers will soon have a new edition ready, when Mr. Rider will again have it.

But what is the use of an inquiry as to which is the best work of fiction. What is the test of excellence, and who is to be judge? Each generation changes its literary gods. Sam Johnson in the fullness of his fame said that Blair's sermons would never cease to be read while the English language continued to be used. Well the use of English continues, but what has become of Blair's Sermons, and in fact of Sam Johnson himself. A few men buy him, and fewer read him.

In a notice of the forth-coming life of Margaret Fuller, by Julia Ward Howe, in the last "BOOK NOTES" the writer spoke of Hiram Fuller as being the brother of Margaret. This the writer is now informed was incorrect. He was a distant relative, but not a brother. In 1840 Mr. Fuller was a bookseller in Providence. He had a store at what was then No. 40 Westminster street. It was in Butler's Row, which, as everybody knows, is now where it then was, just above the Arcade, on the southern side of the street. There, on the 4th of August, 1840, he issued a Prospectus for the publication of the *Providence Book*, a name which he afterwards changed to the *Rhode Island Book*. Neither Margaret nor Hiram Fuller lived long in Providence. Their names are not in Hugh H. Brown's Directory for 1844.

Daisy Miller, the famous sketch, by Mr. Henry James, has been dramatized, and is just ready, by Messrs. J. B. Osgood & Co. The publishers claim for Mr. James that he is the great student of cosmopolitan life, and that Daisy Miller is his masterpiece, and that for the first time it is accessible in a convenient library form. Hitherto it has been published by Harper and Brothers in their handy Half Hour Series.

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe's new memoir of Margaret Fuller, will be published about September 20th. There is much interest in Providence concerning it.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1883.

No. 12.

The Domain of Legitimate Criticism.—McMasters Again:

[From the *Nation* of Sept. 6th.]

Four journals have done the BOOK NOTES the honor of noticing the criticisms of McMasters' History published therein. Among these may be mentioned the communication signed J. in the *Nation*. Concerning the disfranchisement of the Cincinnati, this writer says, "while McMasters gives in the text his own opinion that the Cincinnati were disfranchised, he gives in the note his authority in full, from which any reader may see that the disfranchisement was only proposed when the writing took place. Here, also, there is no danger of any mistake on the reader's part, and that is the essential point." From all this I beg leave to differ. McMasters says, (p. 173), "Rhode Island disfranchised such of her citizens as were members of the Order." In a foot note he gives as his authority a quotation from a newspaper published in Philadelphia, as follows: "We hear that the State of Rhode Island is determined to disfranchise any and every person who is a member of the Order of the Cincinnati, and render them incapable of holding any post of honor and trust in the government." Here are two distinct and different statements. First, McMasters says that a certain thing was done; and second, his authority which says it *hears* that a certain thing is to be done. It is absurd to make a positive historic statement, as McMasters has done, on such evidence as that is. How is any one but an expert to know which, if either, is correct? The truth is, *neither* statement is correct. Rhode Island never even proposed to do any such thing, much less did it. Both the statement in the narrative, and the authority as well, are false. It is because this writer has relied upon just such stuff as this that I distrust his book.

The second of the BOOK NOTE criticisms is, if maintained, far more serious than this. The charge is that a certain *proposed* act is so stated and disowned upon, as to leave upon the mind the belief that it is an accomplished fact, and very derogatory to Rhode Island, whereas no such facts existed. J., in the *Nation*, says he

cannot see how this charge can stand. Let us show him. P. 339, McMasters says: "The members [of the General Assembly] then went on to do the worst act of their lives. It was felt that a new forcing act must be passed, and that the new one must be stringent. An iron clad oath, to which the name of the test oath was given, was accordingly framed and brought in. Every man who took this oath swore in a most solemn manner to do his utmost to support the paper bank. * * A long list of penalties *was provided* for those who did not take the oath." "Ship captains *were forbidden* to come in or go out of the ports of the State till they had taken the oath. Lawyers were *not to practice*, men were *not to vote*, politicians were not to run for office, members of the next Legislature were not to take their seats till they had upon their solemn oaths declared that paper was as good as gold. In this form the law went before the people." Mr. McMasters gives as his authority for all this two newspapers, the *New York Packet* and the *United States Chronicle*. Now I maintain that to this point McMasters has impressed upon the mind of his reader the idea that all these things were accomplished facts; whereas they were no such things; they were all only propositions submitted to the people. No such law was ever made; no shipmasters, nor lawyers, nor members, nor anybody else, ever took the oath, nor were ever asked to. It was simply a monstrous proposition. McMasters then proceeds to inform us that "It seemed likely that a number of rich merchants and prosperous tradesmen would pack up their goods, desert their homes, and remove to a neighboring State."

Just as if such men, at the mere proposal of a bad law, would take such serious steps. Nothing whatever of the kind took place. It was simply heated newspaper talk. We are then informed that town meetings were held, and that three towns instructed their delegates to support it, (the law, which, however, had never been enacted into a law). He does not inform us that twenty-seven towns instructed their delegates to vote against it—he gives the names of the towns which supported the proposition, but not those which were opposed to it.

He farther says: "In November, the Forcing Act was thrown out by an overwhelming majority." Now, I maintain that the impression upon the reader's mind is all through that this proposed law was a real law; that for a time the people labored under it; and that, at a subsequent meeting of the Legislature, it was repealed. All of which is untrue, and no part of the History of Rhode Island.

Nor is it a part of the history of the people of Rhode Island, which McMasters assumes to have written, because these people lived in thirty towns; when asked if they wanted these monstrous propositions enacted into a law, only three towns out of the thirty said yes. The people were against it almost unanimously. McMasters does not so inform us.

That I have confined these inquiries to two distinct points is not because I have exhausted the field. If the defence of my state or myself requires it, the whole book will be examined, but these two specimens are characteristic of the work.

I maintain what I before said, that so far as this State is concerned, this "History" is indeed valueless, for only an expert would be able to detect the true from the false. But if such things are true with regard to Rhode Island, why may they not be just as true with regard to other States?

A word more and I have done. I contemptuously calls these things microscopical, and of no consequence, and says that in spite of them this history is the best, covering the period, ever written. To say that this work is the best ever written, may be a very polite way of saying a very severe thing concerning those histories of its class which have preceded it. To understand the force of such a phrase, one must possess an accurate knowledge of those which preceded it. *What has preceded it?*

In a certain sense, everything is microscopical—any single thing is of minor consequence—but, in my humble judgment, these things come within the domain of legitimate criticism. They misrepresent the history of a people, and are therefore unhistoric. They betray a straining for effect; an ineffectual investigation of the true sources of history, and a disregard to their proper use, such as, if as true with regard to other States as of Rhode Island, will seriously impair, if it does not destroy its value as history.

In the current number of the *Nation*, J. has a "Last word on McMasters." He makes no attempt to overthrow the arguments in the preceding article. They cannot be overthrown. He falls back on the usual resort of him who loses his argument and his temper at the same time. He charges the writer in Latin with suppressing the truth. Well, it is easier to charge the Book Notes with suppression of the truth than to show that McMasters has told it.

New Books this Morning:

PAEKER'S RECOLLECTIONS OF A NAVAL OFFICER.

JULES' VERNES' NEW STORY, GODFREY MORGAN.

THOMPSON'S MEMOIR OF PHILIP REIS, THE INVENTOR OF THE TELEPHONE.

BALDWIN'S STORY OF ROLAND.

ALTIORA PETO is a thoroughly good novel. There's enough material in it for a dozen ordinary novels.

A Monumental History of Rhode Island:

The recent erection of a bowlder monument to the memory of Ninegret, and still more recently one to the memory of Canonieus, concerning which appeared sundry appeals and communications in the daily papers, is my apology for a remark or two upon this subject. There appeared in the *Providence Journal*, June 28, 1849, a communication signed S. (William R. Staples) in which he urges the setting up of monuments to mark historic spots throughout the State. This article he begins with two quotations which he says were taken from an address delivered in glowing language by one of our greatest men, now numbered with the dead, to overflowing audiences of Rhode Island citizens, in which these monuments were first suggested. The man referred to by Mr. Staples (afterwards Chief Justice Staples) was Chief Justice Durfee, the father of the present Chief. To him then belongs the credit of being the first Rhode Island scholar to suggest the idea, now being in a certain way carried out. There was grandeur in the original thought. But how dwarfed it becomes when carried out in this diminutive way—a paltry stone dug from the earth, encumbers the streets. It must be hauled somewhere, and so it becomes a monument. One of the boundaries named by Canonieus and Miantonomi in their deed to Roger Williams is the great "hill Neotaeconkonit." On the top of this great landmark there once floated, and was deposited, an immense granite bowlder, globular in form, and symmetrical, and there it still remains, outlined against the sky. Thereon the eyes of Canonieus, of Miantonomi, and of Williams must frequently have rested. Here, then, beneath this bowlder, is the proper place for a monument, to these the first and best of the white man's friends. Let there be cut, on the granite front of this great Indian bowld, a colossal head of an Indian chief, and beneath it let there be cut in granite: *To the Memory of Canonieus and Miantonomi, the Friends of the White Men.* This can we execute the idea, in all its grandeur which these men first suggested.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan:

The Harpers have again laid the reading public under obligations by the issue of a new volume of the series of English Men of Letters. A series of biographies written by various hands, but all issued under the superintendence of Mr. John Morley, now editor of the *Spectator*. The present volume, by Mrs. Oliphant, is upon *Sheridan*. Hitherto, Mr. Tom Moore's *Life of Sheridan* has been thought to be the best one. But it is only to be had from the libraries. Since that was written, now hard upon sixty years, other sketches have followed and much new material has been made accessible. But it is not improbable that from this little memoir by Mrs. Oliphant, a better idea of Sheridan may be obtained than from any single book which has preceded it. Sheridan as the author of the *Rivals*, and of the *School of Scandal* must to-day be far better known than by his speeches in Parliament. Yet when his speeches against Warren Hastings were delivered, Mr. Burke is reported to have declared it to be the most astonishing effort of eloquence, argument and wit united, of which there was either record or tradition. Mr. Fox said all that he had ever heard, all that he had ever read, when compared with it dwindled to nothing, and vanished like vapors before the sun. Mr. Pitt declared that it surpassed all the eloquence of ancient or modern times, and possessed every thing that genius, or art could furnish to agitate and control the human mind. It is a terrible stretch of the imagination to picture to oneself the miserable abject death which befell the man who could speak with such an effect upon such men. It was simply squalid misery wrought by drinks, by duns, by debts. Bailiffs waited in the house while Sheridan died, and a friend smuggled his body from the house to save it from arrest, to be followed by half the dukes, and earls, and barons, of all England, to Westminster Abbey. It is a sad, sad story. Yet his entire debts were less than twenty thousand dollars.

Mr. Blackmore's Novel, Lorna Doone:

This capital novel, which has heretofore been published by the Harpers only, in their series of octavo paper novels, has now been issued in a neat library edition uniform with their edition of the Black, the George Eliot and the Brontë novels, substantially bound in green cloth. It is safe to say that this book has now won its way to a permanent place among modern English fiction. It is doubtless the intention of the publishers to follow with others of Mr. Blackmore's novels, perhaps the *Maid of Sker*; or *Cripps, the Carrier*; thus, these old favorites may find places in our family libraries to the exclusion of ruff-ruff which too often gets there.

Thicker Than Water:

Is the name of Mr. James Payn's new story. It is issued both in the ordinary Franklin Square form, and also in a neat volume, both by the Harpers. This firm have published twenty-five novels by Mr. Payn, not one has proved a failure, and this new one is certainly equal to any of the preceding ones. Beryl Paton was a five millionaire, he had a most attractive granddaughter, his next of kin. Among his other idiosyncracies, the old gentleman was addicted to making wills, of these singular documents he always had at hand a variety. It was a favorite opinion of his that the old maxim that blood was thicker than water was a humbug. To prove the genuineness of his belief none of his wills recognize this charming Mary Marvon, the granddaughter, who had found in Charley Sotheran an admirable husband. Well, in course of time, Beryl Paton died. Just before he died he destroyed his entire collection of wills, save only two. Of course it was settled in the court of probate, and a most unexpected settlement it was too. The jury came to the conclusion that old Mr. Beryl Paton's will making power was slightly defective, and so Mary Sotheran, *née* Mary Marvon, being next of kin came in. Blood *was* thicker than water in spite of the old lunatic's opinion. This is a capital novel, and if every one don't like it they at least ought to. Mr. Rider has it.

Fore and Aft:

A young fellow, Bob Dixon, took a notion into his head that he should like to become a sailor. He had acquired the rudiments of a good education. His father knew a captain of a brig. On her the boy shipped as a sailor before the mast. The brig sailed with a cargo for Vera Cruz, while there the second mate, who had been unmercifully abused by the captain ran away from the brig. The captain made young Bob second mate, who thus became Mr. Dixon. The brig went down the coast for a cargo of mahogany to carry to Havre. While shipping the cargo, the first mate, whom the captain had shamefully abused, shot, but did not kill, the captain. The first mate was sent to prison, and the vacancy thus created, was filled by the promotion of our young friend. The brig went to Havre, thence back to Mexico, and thence to Boston, where young Bob Dixon took leave of the brig and the sea forever, a wiser, and probably a better man, for he entered upon a course of theological study and became a clergyman, which profession he now follows. This is a simple and unpretending narrative, which is certainly worthy of commendation; it is exceedingly graphic, which is also good; it is full of incidents, and thus interesting. All these good qualities combine to impress upon us its truthfulness, and thus its usefulness, in teaching us the real life of Poor Jack before the mast. Lee and Shepard are its publishers.

By the Gate of the Sea:

The writer of this new novel, Mr. David Christie Murray, is best known by his former story, "A Life's Attonement." Tregarthen, the hero of the present story, was a cornet in one of the Queen's regiments. One evening at a supper of the officers, the young subaltern heard his colonel discourse of his own gallantry much to the discredit of a lady whose charms he sung, and whose character, if what he said was true, he stole. The young cornet who had seen, possibly knew, the lady, at once, in her defence, resented the insult. The colonel, waiving rank, challenged him to fight, or apologize. He would do neither, claiming that the outrageous insult by the colonel to the lady could not be atoned by any such breach of the laws as the colonel proposed. A court-martial was held and the cornet dismissed the service. The Honor of the service must be maintained. Well, later on, young Tregarthen retired to civil life—well fixed so far as this world's goods can fix us. A beautiful woman, Miss Farmer, crossed his path one day. It was the old story, they fell in love, they married. There was a secret between them, Miss Farmer was indeed an actress, her stage name was Miss Churchill, and it was herself, whose character the colonel had assaulted and which Tregarthen had defended. At last discovery came, she fled, albeit she was as chaste as snow, they lived asunder until the end came, wrecked by collision with a bubble. The only trouble with this pretty story is that it is too short. It is in the new and deservedly popular Duodecimo Franklin Squares, and Harpers are its publishers.

Socialism in Modern Times.— Prof. Richard T. Ely:

One of the bright young men, of whom Johns Hopkins University seems to be in possession of so many, has written a little book on the *French and German Socialism in Modern Times*. It extends back into the French Revolution, and reaches to our own times. Beginning with Babeuf, the representative communist of the French Revolution, he follows with Cabet, the author of a *Voyage to Icaria*. Icaria was a modern Utopia which he established in our western country of which in a note a most interesting account is given. Then follows Fourier and Saint Simon among the French, and Rodbertus and Karl Marx and Lassalle among the Germans. Of the theories of these various men a summary is given. In no possible way can we obtain such a clear and succinct statement of these theories about which the whole world is now agitated. Harpers publish the little book and Mr. Rider has it.

Mr. William S. Gottsberger has just ready a short biography of the great actor Henry Irving, now on a visit to this country.

Among the latest publications by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons, are: I. The Philosophic Basis of Theism, by Prof. Samuel Harris, of Yale. The author's object is to give a clear and adequate expression to the arguments for Theism and Christianity, in the light of the thinking of the present day. II. The Scriptural Idea of Man, by Mark Hopkins. It is of man as created in the image of God, of his knowledge, feeling, freedom, and conservative power, of the endowment of man with dominion, and of man's relation to the family, that this author treats. III. Christian Charity in the Ancient Church, by Dr. Uhlhorn. In this book the author undertakes to show the forms which liberality took in the ancient world, such as the extravagant distribution and special donations in the Roman Empire, as compared with the contributions of the early Christians for the support of the poor. IV. Plato's Best Thoughts, as compiled by the Rev. C. H. A. Buckley, from Jewett's Translation. This book, published some time since, has now been re-issued at a much reduced price.

The Literary world has a very severe review of *A Newport Aquarelle*, which instead of being a water color it thinks is a milk-and-water color. *A propos* the Boston *Herald* claims, and the Newport *Mercury* gives currency, to the story that actual persons are hidden beneath the personages who figure in the story. They have found August Belmont, in Mr. Belmonte—Mrs. Paran Stevens, in Mrs. Fallowdeer—Ward McAllister, in Mr. Gray Grosvenor, and in Mrs. Craig, they assume to have found Mrs. J. B. Potter. Whether this is a shrewd advertising trick to make people, out of curiosity, buy the book, we know not. The editor of the BOOK NOTES hopes the authorship of this summer story will be attributed to no friend of his.

Messrs. J. R. Osgood & Co. are about to publish a little classic volume by Susan E. Wallace, entitled, *The Storied Sea*. It consists of sketches and essays about the Mediterranean, and its neighboring lands. Mrs. Wallace is wife of Gen. Lew Wallace, the author of the now famous *Ben Hur*. These same publishers have nearly ready a new art biography, the life of Eugene Fromentin, the great French art critic and painter, with fac-simile sketches.

Mr. R. A. Proctor, the astronomer, has an article in Longman's on the Principles of Draw Poker. He reaches the conclusion that the biggest liar is, other things equal, the best player, and that a man plays better when he is drunk than when he is sober.

The young banker who bought Mr. Sumner's "*What Social Classes Owe to Each Other*," expecting that it would disclose the pecuniary condition of some of his customers, was disappointed. It does nothing of the kind.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1883.

No. 13.

The Oldest Insurance Company in Providence:

In the Providence *Gazette* for March 29, 1869, there appeared the following notice: "Insurance against fire. Situated as we are in the Town of Providence, the earnings of an industrious citizen for years, may be consumed in an hour, and though his neighbors may be well enough disposed towards re-instating the sufferer, yet the contributions must be partial and they will operate unequally. A permanent system is therefore desirable. This once adopted, it would be in the power of every man to secure his property and perhaps not injure his creditors, and if he was unwilling to contribute towards the loss of another, he could have no claim to contribution in case of his own loss. It is therefore proposed that a subscription be opened at Lawrence's Insurance Office, to form a company in the Town of Providence by the name of the Providence Mutual Insurance Fire Company, in manner following. *First*, That a book be opened at said office to receive subscriptions, and any person, owner of a house or houses, may enter his name with the sum he wishes to insure, and the term of time it is to continue. *Second*, As soon as one hundred houses are entered on the book for insurance, the proprietors thereof shall be called together and form themselves into a company to be organized and incorporated. *Third*, As soon as they have obtained an act of incorporation and chosen a President, Vice President, a Treasurer, a Secretary, Twelve Directors, and such other officers as they may deem expedient. Every member of the company shall pay into the treasury, twenty-five cents for each hundred dollars he may have subscribed, which sums when paid in, shall remain as a fund to pay the expenses of the Company, and for such other purposes as they may direct. The following example of the working of the plan was presented, The Town of Providence has between one thousand and fifteen hundred houses, suppose four hundred of them are subscribed in the books, estimated at an average sum of \$2,000 each, the whole stock would be \$800,000.

If \$4,000 should be burned, an assessment of fifty cents on each hundred dollars would make good the loss. In October, the same year, 1869, a charter was granted which without much change has continued three quarters of a century. In January, 1873, the charter was reconstructed and the company under its excellent management still maintains a vigorous existence, and now has nearly twenty millions of property insured.

Emblematic Signs in Providence:

The most celebrated of these figures in days gone by is of course the Turk's Head. Another famous figure was that of Washington or India Bridge, as like an old writer says: "as a wind-mill to a giant." The Town was never noted for a very large number of them. In a newspaper article written some seventy years since, there is mention made of such as then existed, besides those above mentioned there was on Constitution Hill a huge lion, a little farther down was a saddle, still further a white lamb, and near by it a Rein Deer Conchaut. These were for three leather workers. Near the First Baptist Meeting House was an Apothecary's Shop, with a purblind owl, and on the opposite side of the street was a bunch of grapes. Long before this, at least in 1800, this, or a similar bunch had been the sign of Benjamin Thurber, who had dry goods to sell. On Market Square Jeremiah Jenkins sold goods at the sign of the Golden Bee Hive. In those days the only emblematic sign on Westminster street, was a huge boot, on Weybosset, a grocer used a small gilded rhinoceros suspended by a band, still further down an enterprising dealer had a large giant, between whose thumb and finger, Tom Thumb wriggled. Carved ships were common. The Head of Hamilton on the Hamilton building lasted even to our time. In any account of these things the omission of John Carter's familiar imprint Shakespear's Head must not be forgotten. It was on Meeting street.

Two notable new novels are ready this week, one, Mrs. Alexander's *The Executor*, and the other, Mr. W. D. Howells's *A Woman's Reason*.

The Book Lover's Enchiridion:

This little book, the second portion of the title of which runs thus, "Thoughts on the Solace and Companionship of Books," is a perfect gem in whatever aspect we look at it. Perfection of form, elegance of typography, and filled with the wisest sayings of wise men from the times of Solomon even to the days of Longfellow. The word Enchiridion, meaning literally, in the hand, or hand manual, is in its present use beautifully characterized by a motto from Christopher Marlow, which appears on the title, "Infinite riches in a little room." In this charming casket the careful collector has gathered the bright sayings of bright men, in commendation of his beloved books. Englishmen greatly outnumber all the others, yet the classics are not forgotten, for Cicero and Seneca and Horace and Plato and Socrates are here. Among the Frenchmen are Diderot, Montaigne and Montesquieu, and for the Germans stands Richter and Schopenhauer; for the Italians, Petrarch. Among the Americans are Channing and Emerson and Holmes and Longfellow and many more. There is a little paradise within these covers wherein do dwell my special favorites. Here Lamb discourses of his library into which he admits everything, excepting Hamlet, Gibbon, Soame Jennyns, Paley, Draught Boards bound and lettered on the back as books, and generally such volumes as "no gentleman's library would be complete without"—and Hazlitt, who tells me "that sometimes the sight of an old volume of these good, old English authors on a stall, or the name, lettered on the back among others on the shelves of a library, revives a whole train of ideas and instantly twenty years are struck from the list, and I am a child again." Ah! these men are the true book lovers. He who delights in good literature has indeed discovered the Philosopher's stone. This exquisite little book is published by Lippincott & Co.

Grace Darling:

Mr. Thomas Whitaker, publisher of New York has recently issued a very pretty *Memoir of Grace Darling*. This young English girl lived with her parents in a Light House on the Farne Isles, on the east coast of Scotland. During a furious gale a steamer was wrecked there and many lives were lost. When daylight came this young girl saw on some distant rocks several of the shipwrecked passengers. She induced her father to accompany her in a small boat, at the risk of their lives, she pulling an oar, and together they rescued nine passengers. The whole tale is indeed well told. Grace Darling knew not, until the world told her, what a great thing she had done. Her name was woven into song and story and cut in enduring marble, and she became the guest of royalty itself.

The New Silas Marner:

Fortunate is he who has not read George Eliot's novel, *Silas Marner, the Weaver of Raveloe*, for now he can read it in a beautiful large new type, in a new duo decimo size, of the Franklin Square Library. Let us earnestly hope that the public who read, will see the advantage of this new size over the old form of the Franklin Square, and give it such a preference over the old form, as will drive the old form out of use. Here is a substantial twelve mo. volume, on excellent paper, large type, 265 pages, paper covers, for 20 cents. It is a marvel of cheapness. As to its merits as a novel it is not necessary to speak. It was written when George Eliot was at her best, long before she had descended to Heronda and Middlemarch, books, which every one must praise, but which no one reads. Here is a novel which we can both read and praise, and thus our actions will not belie our words.

Attractive Scientific Books:

The writings of Louis Figuier, in certain departments of Natural Sciences, have been among the most popular in the English language during recent years. Their expense has been the only obstacle to their large circulation. This obstacle has now been overcome by their issue in seven uniform volumes, reduced in size, but containing all their original matter and the entire 2,250 beautiful wood engravings with which they were illustrated. The subjects are arranged thus: V. 1. The World before the Deluge. V. 2. The Vegetable World. V. 3. The Ocean World. V. 4. The Insect World. V. 5. Reptiles and Birds in all their orders. V. 6. Mammalia, their various forms and habits. V. 7. The Human Race. Thus by successive steps the learned writer reaches the latest and best development of the productions of the earth, described in a popular and pleasing way, and within the comprehension of everybody.

Robert the Hermit:

This eccentric colored man came, in 1815, to live in a sort of hut constructed with earth and stones on the land of the late Hon. Tristram Burgess, just over the river at India Bridge. His life and adventures were written by Sylvester Southworth, and published by Henry Trumbull for Robert the Hermit to sell in his wanderings. His price was twelve and a half cents. His portrait, with the curious costume, half military and half civil, form the frontispiece for the pamphlet, which was published in 1829. Robert died in his hut on the 1st of April, 1832. He was born in New Jersey a slave, and until he came to Providence he was held in that condition. His memoir has become quite scarce. Probably not more than half a dozen copies have ever fallen under the observation of the writer.

Fancy Run Mad:

The new Jules Verne book *Gosfrey Morgan*, possesses all those extravagant qualities which have rendered those of his books which have preceded it so popular. It is with the San Francisco billionaires that Monsieur Verne now deals. He probably selected these people as characters because he would have less exaggerating to do, they being pretty well developed in that way. A Yankee, genuine and original, a French dancing master, the beautiful Phina, daughter of the billionaire, are the chief characters. A beautiful steamship, a voyage to a distant desert island, a prearranged shipwreck on this island. The captain, cook, crew, ship, everything and every body supposed to be lost, save only the Yankee and the Frenchman. On this desert island these two individuals find themselves. Then follows such a system of evolution as Darwin never dreamt of. Out of nowhere, from nothing, came bears, and lions and tigers, and haubs, clothing, food, guns, ammunition, and as a matter of fact everything. Such are some of the Things, Scenes, Incidents which go to make up this capital story.

History of the English Church:

Charlotte M. Yonge, the author of the *Heir of Redclyffe*, has just ready an excellent little book on English Church History. Miss Yonge prepared it for use in Sunday Schools, but it appears to be a book which men and women interested in the subject might profit by. Beginning with the earliest days of the English Church, the author follows with well written chapters on the English Saints. The changes wrought by the Normans, Thomas à Becket, Wycliff, and the Lollards, The Separation from Rome, The dissolution of the Monasteries. The Prayer Books of Edwards the First and Second, The Puritans, The Great Rebellion and many other subjects. The treatment is of course concise, she did not intend it to be exhaustive, for the little book has only a couple of hundred pages, and the type is very large, and there are many wood cuts. Miss Yonge is a vigorous writer who wastes no words, and her clearly defined sections were made for instruction, not ornament. The little book is good.

The *Spectator* (English) of a recent date has a highly commendatory notice of Mr. W. E. Foster's little book *Libraries and Readers*. It speaks in the highest terms of Mr. Foster's hints and suggestions, and especially admires those connected with Miss Cobb's Peak in Darien, a book, the finding of which, in such a town of Providence, seems to have excited the greatest astonishment in the reviewer.

Recollections of a Naval Officer:

Captain Parker, the author of this book, is a brother of Admiral Foxhall Parker. He is well known by many here in Rhode Island. He was among the earliest graduates of the Naval Academy, and after seeing some service in the Mediterranean and in the West Indies, came home to be assigned to the Frigate *Potomac* for service in the Mexican war. After the war, Captain Parker became instructor at the Naval Academy. On the secession of Virginia, his native state, he left the service of the United States, and entered the service of the Confederate states. He was continually employed at all the Southern ports from Richmond down to the gulf. In the two navies he saw near thirty years of service, and he has here written one of the most interesting narratives of it. The book is filled with nautical anecdotes told in the cleverest vein of many men now become famous who were contemporaries of Captain Parker. And he who wishes to learn how naval matters are conducted, or he who wishes to be amused, cannot select a better instrument than this excellent book. That portion which concerns the breaking up of the Confederate government is of historic value. It is from the press of Charles Scribner's Sons.

The Hoosier School Boy:

The very great success which attended the publication of the *Hoosier School Master*, by Mr. Edward Eggleston, doubtless led to the present publication by the same author. The model of the book is precisely that of its predecessor. The hero of the story, Jack Dudley, enters the country school a stranger to all the scholars. He was friendless, his character, mental, moral, or physical was an unknown quantity, and all the scholars set themselves at once at work to discuss it. Some of the larger ones bullied him, but the little fellows soon discovered in him a friend. He fought their battles in addition to his own. He was a self-reliant little fellow, and would fight against odds if necessary to resist what he thought degrading oppression. The story is very entertaining, in many parts it is really pathetic, and it presents in a very great degree all those characteristics which rendered its predecessor and counterpart so successful.

A compact, and yet sufficiently minute History of France, is that by Mr. G. W. Kitchen, in three volumes. Mr. Kitchen's idea was to describe the leading interesting incidents with much detail, while the dull connecting links were passed quickly over. He has not indeed eliminated all the dryness, nevertheless he has made an excellent History.

A Pleasant Book about Italy :

Mr. John Addis Symonds, an accepted authority in matters of Italian Literature and Art, has recently written a series of sketches concerning remote, or unfrequented places in Italy under the title *Italian Byways*. Herein he discusses of the convent of Monte Oliveto, in which is a cloister covered with wall paintings by Signorelli and Bazzi, famous among students of Italian art; of Montepulciano one of those hill cities whose history is lost among the mists of fable; of his wanderings in the spring time to Capri, and thence to Ischia, of such unhappy recent history, and Casamicciola, the village near Ischia, where the visitors to the Mineral Springs do mostly congregate. The most extended sketch is that wherein is described the Palace of Urbino, and another description of Venice. Interspersed are several tales which illustrate the days when the Dukes of Urbino were living figures instead of figures in history, and when the daggers of the bravos of Venice were in nightly demand. To those of us who stay at home this book is of the greatest use in learning of Italy and of the Italians, but to him who visits these classic grounds what a boon it must be. It is from the press of Henry Holt & Co.

Buy Quiet, but Good Books :

There seems to be a growing sentiment, possibly growing slowly, that there is such a thing as having too much education. The editor of the BOOK NOTES never having suffered from an over stock of that material, believes naturally enough that no one else has suffered by it. There may be such a thing as a bad use of a good thing. A brick layer may be able to calculate an eclipse, this knowledge may not indeed make him a better bricklayer, and he should not, perhaps, allow it to interfere with his main business; but when that is done how supreme is the intellectual pleasure which he must possess in his other acquirements. It enlarges the boundaries of his pleasures, and must make him a wiser and a better man. No, the editor of the "BOOK NOTES" urges every body to acquire knowledge, and there is no better way to begin than by reading a little book of *Stories of English History* by Louise Creighton, just published in England. There are no people of so much interest to us as the people of England. And if, by the reading of these interesting little stories, a desire is created for something more detailed, more connected, or more elaborate, a great good will have been done. The tone of the book is quiet, unostentatious, and thoroughly good, and if it could be made to supplant the sensational stuff, which seems so easy of access, everybody would be the better for it.

A Discussion of the Evidences of Religion :

Prof. Fisher, of Yale, has just published a new volume entitled the *Grounds of Theistic and Christian Belief*. Those topics in which there is at present special interest have been given the greatest prominence. They are, in their order: 1st. The Personality of God, and of man. 2d. The Arguments for the being of God. 3d. The Anti-Theistic Theories, Pantheism, Positivism, Materialism, Agnosticism. 4th. The Possibility and the Function of Miracles, together with proofs of them, independently from the authorship of the Gospels. 5th. Special inquiry as to the genuineness of the Fourth Gospel. 6th. The relation of Biblical Criticisms to the Christian Faith. 7th. The Canon of the New Testament in its relation to the Christian Faith. 8th. The Congruity of the Natural and Physical Sciences with the Christian Faith. Such are some of the heads discussed by Prof. Fisher whose book is from the press of Charles Scribner's Sons.

Winter Evening Amusement :

As the winter nights come on apace, there will be many a household in which the question will be asked, What shall we do to night? It is an evening's amusement for the family and a few friends that is wanted, *Hoffman's Parlor Amusements and Evening Amusements* will quickly answer the question. In it is every species of amusements, beginning with games of action like Blindman's Buff and Hunt the Slipper; it follows with games involving mental action like the Hidden Word and Crambo; Forfeit and card games succeed these in turn. Chapter VII is devoted entirely to those little after dinner accomplishments and eccentric forms of amusements which gives so much fun where conversation becomes tiresome, like the Rasin Tortoise, the Passenger to Boulogne, &c. Wax works, Charades, Shadow Pantomimes, Card Tricks follow, and in fact the book is a mine of information concerning how, and what to do to amuse for an evening your friends and neighbors.

To speak of a History of England as being the greatest monument yet reared by English Historical Scholarship, becomes, when spoken by competent authority, the highest possible commendation. Yet that is precisely what is said of Mr. William Stubbs Constitutional History of England. The work ends with Richard the Third, which is where Mr. Hallam begins.

It is impossible to praise a perfect work, that is why I cannot write something commendatory of the *October St. Nicholas*. There it is, before you at it.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1883.

No. 14.

Nuts for Antiquaries:

During the month of August, 1828, there were bored in Providence two artesian wells. One in a stable occupied by the Citizen's Coach Company, on land which was made by filling in Muddy dock, now Dorrance street, and the other at the end of the Dorrance Street Company's wharf. This also was on made land, and at a point several hundred yards from the former water's edge. All this tract of land had been filled in a short time previously, mainly by the firm of B. & C. Dyer. There was nothing connected with the first well of a peculiar character, but with the second there was something peculiar. After boring through the artificial soil the blue mud of the former river bottom was reached. This deposit was twenty feet in thickness, beneath this mud, an excellent peat bog was reached. This deposit was four feet in thickness. After passing this, a deposit of fine, white sand, mixed with grayish pebbles, and quartz gravel. At this point water gushed forth, but it was impregnated with some mineral deposits which rendered it unfit for use, and the boring was continued. At a point thirty-five feet below the former bottom of the river there were found grape vines, grapes, leaves, acorns, hazel nuts, pine burrs, and a great variety of seeds of unknown fruits. They were taken to the house of Mr. Benjamin Dyer for the inspection of the curious. Of course they must have washed down from the surrounding hills, but when were they so washed? And was there then a depth of water equal to forty or more feet? The well was long since closed. Where it was, is now an immense pile of coal. These wells were bored by Mr. Horton probably (Stephen).

Banned and Blessed:

Is the name given by Mrs. A. L. Wister to her new novel after the German of E. Werner. The name of this author does not appear on the title pages of either of the twenty-three former adaptations by this lady. It makes but little difference who wrote the original story, after it has left Mrs. Wister's hands it is always excellent. Messrs. J. B. Lippincott & Co. are its publishers.

The Degeneracy of the Times:

Willom went we to Wickford, for therein lay the lands staked out by Miantinomi for a Trading House for Roger Williams. It was along the banks of the brook Cawwemisset, and so Williams calls the place by the name of the brook. Hereaway, too, was the famous hostelry, or block house, built by Richard Smith. Well, it was to find this famous site which led us to Wickford, and being strangers in the land, we accosted an ancient citizen, with, could he tell us whereaway it was that Roger Williams had his Trading House? Williams! Williams!! I don't remember any Williams's about here; what did you say his name was? Roger—Roger Williams? Well, he ain't here, and I never heard before of any such man around here. Well, said we, it was near by Richard Smith's home and which long afterwards was known as the Updike house,—whereaway is that? Albeit it was there in sight. Well, said the ancient citizen, I never heard of the Richard Smith home, nor of the Updike house before, and I don't think they are in this neighborhood. Well, said we, and how long have you lived about here? Seventy years and more, said he. Alas! said we, such indeed is fame, and we sighed and departed. Apropos, Jack Gardner, the hairs of whose head was scarcely whitened by the frosts of a dozen winters, was a little lame in the catechism, as his good aunt suspected. So, to brush up Jack's catechetical recollections was the worthy aunt's desire. So she began,—Jack, who was the first man? Jack disremembered, so the good aunt reminded Jack that it was Adam. But just then Jack came to his recollection, that Roger Williams was the first man, and he stoutly maintained the point, despite the sophistry of his worthy aunt. Well, there's no doubt as to that boy's birthplace. Moral: Note the difference between him of Wickford and Jack Gardner. And yet they talk of the degeneracy of the times.

Mr. Julian Hawthorne's new novel, *Fortune's Fool*, is just ready by Messrs. J. R. Osgood & Co. The critics in England have been severely against it. Mr. Hawthorne has in press a life of his father, Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Mr. W. H. Bishop's New Book about Mexico:

Good books about the condition of Modern Mexico have not been plentiful. Just now Harper & Brothers have ready a very good one by Mr. William H. Bishop. The book is divided into two sections. The first relates exclusively to old Mexico, and the second to her lost provinces. Mr. Bishop landed at Vera Cruz in April, 1881, and made very extensive journeyings through the interior. He made many very pretty sketches of such scenery, buildings, and portraits as he considered of interest, and wrote a clever account of them. The chapter concerning the Silver Mines and the people who work them is exceedingly instructive. So is that about General Diaz, who plays the same role in the Mexican politics as that which used to be played in England by the Earls of Warwick. He is the King and the maker of kings. Another is that wherein the author relates his visit of a week at a Mexican Country House. The second portion relates to the lost provinces, lost by the Mexicans, but found by the United States and now attached to the chain of American States. Of these California is chiefest, and thus San Francisco claims a great deal of space. Here the author gives an account of the Bonanza Kings and their palaces, and very much concerning the mining stocks. If any one were to search for a parallel to the history of these stocks he would have to fall back upon the South Sea Bubble, and even then the latter dwindles into insignificance. The history of the town of Tombstone, wherein a newspaper is printed called the *Epitaph*, is exceedingly interesting. It is a lively place in spite of its name.

A Book of Clever Conceits for Children:

Margaret Eyttinge, who has long been a contributor to Harper's Young People, St. Nicholas and sundry other periodicals, has gathered into a volume a collection of stories for children which Harper & Brothers have illustrated in the happiest manner and brought out as a book for holiday uses. It is called the *Ball of the Vegetables and other Stories*. When one sees a single story like one of these in some magazine it amuses for a moment and makes but a slight impression. It is only when we see them grouped together in a volume that we are struck with the remarkable originality of the writer. They are the quaintest stories imaginable. To understand their character one must read them. Vegetables, Fruits, Nuts, Mice, Birds, School Books, Flowers, Insects, and many more things, animate or inanimate, dance jigs, hold dialogues and play games with children in the oddest and most curious way. It is a book of clever conceits for young people.

The Middle Kingdom:

A SURVEY OF THE GEOGRAPHY, GOVERNMENT, LITERATURE, SOCIAL LIFE, ARTS AND HISTORY OF THE CHINESE EMPIRE AND ITS INHABITANTS. WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND A NEW MAP OF THE EMPIRE. BY S. WELLS WILLIAMS, LL. D. Thus runs the title of a good book.

The wonderful advance in the arts of civilization and intellectual development made by China during the thirty-five years since this book was first written, and especially the new basis upon which its foreign relations have been established, and the events that are even now occurring in this connection, render the publication of this revised edition unusually important.

Dr. S. Wells Williams' "Middle Kingdom" has long occupied the position of a classic. It is not only the fullest and most authoritative account of the Chinese and their country that exists, but it is also the most readable and entertaining. This new issue is practically a new book. The text of the old edition has been largely re-written and the work has been expanded so as to include a vast amount of new material collected by Dr. Williams during the latter years of his residence in China, as well as the most recent information respecting all the departments of the Empire. Many new illustrations have been added and the best of the old engravings have been retained. An important feature of the edition is a large map of the Chinese Empire from the best modern authorities, more complete and accurate than any map of the country hitherto published. And the work is unquestionably the best concerning the Chinese people in the English language. Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons are its publishers.

The New Anthology—English Verse:

The first and the second volumes of this series, under the editorial care of Mr. W. J. Linton and Mr. R. H. Stoddard, are just published. They cover respectively the poets from Chaucer to Burns, and the Lyrics of the nineteenth century. This latter volume comprises the American copyright authors, by the courtesy of the publishers. So far as the outward form and general style of these volumes go, there seems to be nothing to be desired. They are just right. As to their literary excellence it is yet too early to speak: but if but half that the compilers claim has been done, has actually been accomplished, then in this aspect also will they be just right. Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons are their publishers.

Doré's Illustrations of the Raven:

The publishers of this superb gift book, Harper & Brothers, claim for it that it is the Great Book of the coming Christmas. These illustrations were the last complete work of this great artist. They are twenty-six in number, and rank among the most original and imaginative fruits of the great artist's genius. They form a wonderful pictorial paraphrase of the intense thought, passionate feeling, and fantastic imaginings of the weird American poem, the burden of which M. Doré conceived to be "the enigma of death and the hallucination of an inconsolable soul." The drawings have been rendered by the ablest and most accomplished American engravers now living. The title-page contains a strong and characteristic design by Elihu Vedder. Thus far these notes were sent to the printer before the book had come to hand, now it is here, and the writer of these notes, who has hitherto seen more or less of books, hesitates not to say that so far as the art of wood engraving goes, or the art of printing from wood blocks, for this also is an art, nothing at all comparable to it has ever appeared. It is impossible to know how those coming after us will look the things we like, but if he who will hereafter write the history of wood engraving in America, dates not an epoch from this book, then the writer is mistaken. It is positively wonderful.

Marian Harland's New Cook Book—The Cottage Kitchen:

This new book finds a large constituency ready to welcome its publication. So popular has been this author's *Common Sense in the Household* that many large editions have been rapidly absorbed.

Within the last quarter of a century, Cookery, as an art, has become a fashionable study, with its kindergartens, Normal schools, professors and itinerant lecturers, and the art of good living in an economical and sensible way, is cultivated to a much larger extent than ever before in this country. This result is in great measure the effect of the improved manuals of household economy that have been so widely circulated, none of which have won such an established and permanent place in the public estimation as the writings on these subjects by Marian Harland.

The special mission of *Cottage Kitchen* is to aid people, who cannot afford an expensive establishment, so to administer the resources of kitchen and store room, that, with the minimum of expense they shall have the maximum of result on their tables. Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons are its publishers.

Plutarch for Boys:

Plutarch's *Lives* is one of those books of antiquity which stands alone by itself. It has been the delight of men of all former generations. It is singular that among the recent attempts to popularize the classics for the use of youthful readers this remarkable book should have been overlooked. This oversight has at last been remedied, by the publication by Messrs. J. B. Lippincott & Co., of *Our Young Folks' Plutarch*, under the editorial care of Rosalie Kanfman. This excellent book contains all the "Lives" rewritten for young readers. It is difficult to conceive of a better book. It is not a book of history, but a book of biographies, into which are woven anecdotes, repartee, and the short sayings of men, things which so well illustrate personal character. Thus the heroes of Greece and Rome are made to assume a vivid existence not attained in any other book. Excellent illustrations, and especially good maps accompany the text, which is beautifully printed. You cannot place a better book in the hands of your boys.

History of Science:

Nothing is more interesting than a well-told account of those inventions and discoveries which have operated largely on the destiny of mankind. This was the purpose of Mr. R. Routledge in his *Popular History of Science*, and by the term science, the author means Astronomy, Heat, Light, Electricity, Chemistry, to a slight extent Mathematics, Botany, Zoölogy, and Geology. He makes no attempt at an elaborate account of these sciences, but at give a popular account of their rise and development. For the purpose of adding a little human interest to his narrative, he has given biographical accounts of many of the distinguished discoverers. Portraits are inserted, and a great many wood-cuts illustrative of the narrative. The story of Galileo, wherein are all the documents, is alone worth the price of the book.

The Christmas Number of Harper:

This magnificent periodical, which might almost be called a fine art magazine, has already issued its proposed contents for December, which is to be the Christmas number. This number is also the beginning of the new volume, and is thus a proper beginning of a new subscription. There is no possible way in which one can get so much for one's money as in this excellent periodical. This number will contain no less than twelve illustrated articles, and when the Harper's say illustrated, they mean illustrated by the best designers, and engravers on wood now living in the world.

Whys and Wherefores :

Young Folks' Why's and Wherefores is an adaptation of a French Juvenile book prepared especially for American children. The book is an ingeniously arranged story of family life. One member of this family, Annie, a very bright little girl, is, like many another bright child perpetually asking questions, she wants to know why it snows? why it rains? why we have cold hands? why the fire went out? why the bottle stuck to her lips when she sucked the air out of it? and a hundred other just such questions concerning things which every day happen in well regulated families. Thus she laid under contributions her mother, Mrs. Mer-ton, her grandfather Gordon, her big brother, Paul, Catherine the Cook, and Mary, the chambermaid. Each one of whom were some-times at their wit's ends to answer her acute inquiries. The book is excellent. It is filled with that kind of amusement which instructs; we laugh and learn. It is from the press of J. B. Lippincott & Co., elegantly printed and filled with wood engravings.

Mrs. Gilpin's Frugality :

A lady, Susan Ann Brown, having discovered that there are such things as stingy extravagance, and wasteful scripping, and that the great art of living was to know how to use everything to the best advantage, concluded to write a book (the usual expedient of such people) and show how the thing was to be done. She called it *Mrs. Gilpin's Frugalities*. The idea of the name came from Cowper's Poem concerning John, and Mrs. Gilpin was John's wife, and as John had a frugal mind, why, of course Mrs. Gilpin had one too, and she must have known how to use up all the little remnants of fish, flesh, or fowl in the most economical and also the most palatable way, hence the name. The little book is most tastefully got up by Charles Scribner's Sons, and the ideas suggested seem, some of them, at all events to be excellent.

William J. Brown, a colored man born in Providence in 1814, and who is now become blind, has printed a *Life of himself* into which he has interwoven his personal recollections of incidents in Providence, and in some other portions of Rhode Island. Mr. Brown is led about and is selling his book. This kind of a book agent the editor of these 'Book Notes' heartily commends. Mr. Brown's book is well worth all the money he asks for it; buy it, you will help him, and gain for yourself both pleasure and instruction, while he who hereafter writes the history of Providence will find in this unpretensions little book many facts quite necessary to his purpose.

The Artists' Edition of Gray's Elegy.

If anything were needed to show the strong hold which Gray's Elegy has in the hearts of the present generation of men and women, one could show it in the fact that three entirely new, and so far as the illustrations are concerned, original editions, have been issued the present season. The most recent one coming from the press of J. B. Lippincott & Co., called by them *The Artists' Edition*, is a book of exceeding beauty. The illustrations are by American artists, among whom are Mr. R. Swain Gifford, Mr. W. T. Richards, Mr. F. S. Church, Mr. W. H. Gibson and many others just as excellent. Some of these designs are remarkably good, especially the one by Mr. Bolton Jones, the head piece to the Epitaph. Another of great excellence is that by Mr. J. F. Murphy, illustrative of the line "To meet the sun upon the upland lawn," and still another by Mr. F. H. Smith, to illustrate the line "The warm precincts of the cheerful day." But it is useless to discriminate among so many good ones. The entire book is beautiful.

The Boy Travellers in Africa.

Mr. Thomas W. Knox, the author of the series known as the *Boy Travellers*, brings his series to a close by the publication of the *Boy Travellers in Central Africa*. It is thus the fifth of this admirable series which the Harpers have now published, and is of course uniform in size and style with those which have preceded it. The book is, of course, a compilation from many books of actual travel. The two boy travellers never made the journey, that would be a physical impossibility. Herein Mr. Knox describes what they would have seen had they been actually there. The field covered by the narrative is an excellent one, for interesting young people. Wild and savage life, sport, if hunting can be called a sport; the explorations of unknown regions; extraordinary adventures of every kind in travelling; the most singular costumes of the natives and their mode of life; all these tend to interest the young and by learning about them how much the boundaries of their knowledge will be enlarged. Every book like this, when well read, becomes the key to open the next door; encourage the children to open and enter.

Mrs. Alexander's new story, the *Executor*, is quite equal to the best this lady has hitherto written. Whether she is uneven in her work, or whether some of her unfinished youthful work has been thrust upon us, to live upon the success which followed her first stories we do not know. This latest, however, is equal to the first.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1883.

No. 15.

Anti Tobacco:

A little book from the press of Roberts Brothers with the title above, is the work of three writers. The first of whom is Mr. Abiel Abbot Livermore, who draws seven indictments against the helpless weed. Two things, precision and certainty, are absolutely necessary in an indictment; with deference, these indictments are lacking in both qualities. The first is that it is a poison. The same thing must be said and with equal truth of beef steak. Neither statement is true, a poison may be extracted from either, but neither are in themselves poisons. The second is that it is a needless expense. That is a matter of opinion. The third is that it leads directly to drinking spirituous liquors. There is no certainty in this, every one knows many men who smoke, but who do not use liquors and *vice versa*. The fourth is that it is an indignity to the female sex. It is difficult to see how this is an indignity to women more than it is to men. The fifth is that it is an enslaving habit. I cannot understand this charge. The sixth is that it is a perversion of the gifts of God. What the Creator intended it for we do not know, how can any one say its use has been perverted unless he can positively show how the Creator intended it to be used. The seventh is that it is the cause of deterioration in the successive generations of the human race. We weren't quite sure upon this point before, we knew something was at work upon them, that the boys were not as smart as their fathers, nor the girls as capable as their mothers, but we never suspected the mothers of smoking; now they had better stop that pernicious habit and help elevate the race.

London Town:

Thomas Crane, the brother of Walter Crane, has rapidly come to the front rank in the making of beautiful books for children. His this year's book he calls *London Town*. It is neither more, nor less than, beautifully colored drawings of odd people which one sees every day in London Town, but he likewise gives buildings, towers, vehicles, and many other things which those who have seen London will instantly recognize. The book, like the town, is capital.

Amarancy Paine:

When the writer of these "NOTES" was an errand boy in Charles Burnett's book store, there used frequently to come to the store a small woman with a quick movement of the body, of an olive complexion, who would look up from under her eyebrows with a mild and gentle eye, and in such an insinuating way inform Mr. Burnett that the Anti-Slavery Society was going to hold a Fair to which she had no doubt he would gladly contribute a few small things. This was Amarancy Paine. In those days she was the soul of the Anti-Slavery Society. She went about doing nothing but good. In that pursuit she was indefatigable. It was the most natural thing that Mr. Davis, her biographer, should canonize her under the name *Saint Indefatigable*. This extraordinary woman, who was so terribly in earnest in her work, had yet the keenest sense of the ridiculous, and no end of mother wit. She was a typical Yankee, and it is a great misfortune that so much which she knew touching social life here in Providence has now been lost. There was a phase of this life which no one else saw as she saw it, and no harm would have resulted from the preservation of some record of it. There is a trace of it here and there in Mr. Davis's book, but it only whets the appetite for more. The book is too small. In it there is a photograph of a pen and ink drawing of Amarancy, by a young lady amateur artist, Miss Sarah J. Eddy. It is exceedingly clever. The young artist has caught the exact expression of her subject and with a few bold lines preserved it.

Little Ann:

Kate Greenaway, for her this year's Christmas book, has illustrated some of Jane Taylor's verses for children, and among them is *Little Ann*. It is a book of exquisite beauty, the color printing (it is the English edition) is excellent. Nothing finer in the way of a young child's book has ever been produced, and then the verses—well they are not of the wishy-washy style of to-day, they are plainly written and intended to mean something. They are the same old verses which the fathers and mothers of the little children of to-day read when they were little children themselves.

Richard Metcalf:

Richard Metcalf was a son of Joel and Susannah Metcalf. He was born in Providence where his ancestors and their descendants had long lived, among the most worthy and industrious of Rhode Island people. Richard was among the first to enter the High School on its establishment in 1843. It was a large class of boys, there being 114 of them. Among them was Edward H. Hall, a son of him who is now in the Pastor's Rest. He is now the biographer of his classmate Richard. After the High School, young Metcalf entered Brown University where he graduated in due course, taking the Valedictory. He then studied for the ministry and became a Unitarian minister. He was first settled in Bath, Maine, afterwards at Meadville, Pa., and finally at Winchester, Mass., where he died June 29, 1881, a beloved and venerated pastor. Under the title *The Abiding Memory*, Mr. Hall has gathered sixteen of Mr. Metcalf's discourses to which he has prefixed a short Memoir, and the volume has recently been published by Mr. George H. Ellis, of Boston. These discourses cover a period of eleven years in their delivery. They are upon many subjects, but all of them are eminently practical in their nature. Plain and simple in style of composition, they are logical, forcible and vigorous. With not the slightest attempt at effect, they often rise to eloquence, and are very effective. Lives there a man in Providence who desires to be a truer and better man than he is,—let him read in this book, "The Rock that is Higher than I," and he will obtain his desire.

Mrs. Forrester's June:

Those who wish to read a pretty love story can find it in *June*, by Mrs. Forrester. This lady has written several stories, similar in character, which have been successful. Tom Ellesmere, a downright English squire, not specially afflicted with brilliancy, but withal an excellent young fellow, falls desperately in love with a cousin of his, named June Rivers. This bewitching damsel, not in any sense coquette, just delights in keeping Tom in a terrific state of uncertainty. He is one of those men who never is, but always to be blessed. June's mother who is quite as anxious to have her daughter marry Tom as that individual was anxious to marry June, tries her hand in finding out the state of June's feelings concerning Tom. Not very successful was she in this endeavor, but her advice to Tom as to how he should conduct his suit in order to win her daughter, was certainly clever on her part, and not often met with, I fancy, in real life. The interest in the story is well maintained unto the very end, which is satisfactory and happy for Tom and June. It is from the press of Lippincott & Co.

Margaret Fuller:

The new memoir of Margaret Fuller, the publication of which was announced some weeks since, is now ready. It was wise in Mrs. Howe to retain the maiden name of her subject, for had she written the memoir of Marchesa Ossoli few would have known who was meant. But the familiar name of Margaret Fuller is known, remembered, and beloved by many a lady now living in Providence, who in childhood was a scholar in the Greene street school. This is however only local. Margaret Fuller was a Transcendentalist; at one time she was editor of the *Dial*, which is soon to be reprinted; at another time she was at Brook Farm. She was the friend of Emerson and his school. In Europe she met a great many people concerning whom she received vivid impressions which she preserved in her notes, and which are very interesting. Among them are Carlyle, James and Harriet Martineau, George Sand, and many others. In two lines she describes Chalmers, and he stands before you as if touched by the wand of the enchanter. But of all things in this book, those concerning her secret marriage, the birth of her son, the careful guarding of the secret of his birth, the return home and the wreck on Fire Island, are the most interesting,—it is these things we say which most interest us. Roberts Brothers are its publishers.

Mr. Hale's Seven Spanish Cities:

Edward Everett Hale made, during the summer of 1882, a run through Spain. At the request of Mr. Curtis Guild, the editor of the *Commercial Bulletin*, he published in that paper a series of sketches of his visits to the cities of that country. He has now gathered them into a volume which Messrs. Roberts Brothers have just published. Among the cities visited were Burgos, Madrid, Cordova, Seville and Toledo, of each of which there is more or less description, and many bright things concerning the character of the people. It is a queer country where a society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals accepts a benefit from the managers of bull fights, yet that country is Spain. Nevertheless Mr. Hale finds the Spaniards, as a race, temperate, industrious, home-loving people and he has much hope for them. His book is not only a very entertaining one, but it likewise is a very instructive one.

The Reverend Edward H. Hall, once a Providence Boy, now a Unitarian Pastor at Worcester, has just issued a little book comprising Ten Lectures concerning Orthodoxy and Heresy in the Christian church. There was a day, and that too not very long since, when these lectures would have been looked upon by many people as rank heresy; now a days they appear to be quite moderate.

The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood:

This superb book is possibly the most original and elaborate ever produced by an American artist. My Pyle has told with pencil and pen the story of Robin Hood and his merry men in their haunts in Sherwood Forrest, gathered from the old ballads and legends.

There is something thoroughly English in these episodes in the life of the bold outlaw. His sunny, open-air nature, his matchless skill at archery, his generous disposition, his love of fair play, and his ever present courtesy to women, form a picture that has no counterpart in the folk-lore of any other people. But it has other claims to notice in the admirable illustrations which Mr. Pyle has strewn profusely throughout his book. These pictures set forth most graphically every eventful scene in the narrative, and they are in perfect keeping with the story, even to the smallest detail. In them the persons of Robin Hood, Little John, Will Scarlett, Queen Eleanor, Friar Tuck, and all the rest, become as familiar as the names and characteristics of modern personages.

Prof. Packard's Books about Insects:

Prof. A. S. Packard Jr., now happily of Brown University, is an industrious man. Possibly he may not allow the grass to grow beneath his feet, but Insects have no terrors for him in that respect. How many books he has written about Insects we know not, nor how many editions of the same he has published. But of this we are sure, that the preface to his seventh edition of the *Guide to the Study of Insects* was written here in Providence last December. Not satisfied with this grand book, the Professor has graduated the study down to everybody's wants. In a small treatise which he calls *Half Hours with Insects*, he popularizes his subjects, and in a still smaller abridgment called *Our Common Insects*, he popularizes it again. For American students these are the best treatises in the English language. They are kept by their acute author fully abreast of the knowledge of the time. With them one can study a little, or he can study a great deal, and his knowledge will be in accordance with his study.

A new edition of the writings of Thackeray is announced by Smith, Elder & Co., in connection with J. R. Lippincott & Co. It is to comprise twenty-six volumes, one to be issued each month, beginning with October. It will contain many things not heretofore gathered into any edition, thus making it the most complete, and in many respects the best library edition yet issued. The first volume will be *Vanity Fair*. It will contain a portrait of Mr. Thackeray, and more than a hundred other engravings on wood and steel.

Greville's Latest Novel:

"Guy's Marriage," the last production of Henry Greville, whose novels are so much admired in this country, is brilliant, powerful and absorbing, with every characteristic of a romance of the highest grade. The opening is bright, and the interest begins at once, growing with every chapter. The work is a keen and searching analysis of a clever woman's life, and the inmost workings of the female heart are laid bare in the most skillful and effective way. Blanche de Dreux early wins the reader's sympathy and retains it even when she stands on the verge of a moral abyss. Madeline Leronte is in strong contrast with her, and the other ladies are of varied types. Blanche's marital experience is not a satisfying one and her relations with Lucien de Fresnes, the minister, are fraught with danger. Guy de Dreux is a politician, who is kept afloat solely by his wife's wit, and Mullan, the man of the world, proves himself a real friend in time of need. All the characters move in high society, and there is an air of perfect naturalness about all that is said and done. Messrs. Peterson & Brothers are its publishers.

The Ocean World, by Figuier:

The new edition of M. Figuier's *Ocean World* has been most thoroughly revised, and brought down to the present state of science by Prof. Wright of the University of Dublin. There is in this book the most easily understood, and apparently scientific chapter on the cause of the tides which has hitherto been written. The book is full of the most curious learning. Not only is the sea itself, its depth, its temperature, its saltiness described, and explained, but thousands of living things therein contained, are herein pictured and described. Mr. Hale says in his *Seven Spanish Cities*, that what was one man's fish was another man's *poisson*. That means that this book is good for everybody, and so cheap is its price.

Miss Talbot's Books for Children:

Miss Eleanor W. Talbot has this year another new book for young children which will doubtless be as successful as her former ones. Its name is *Jack O'Lantern*. Miss Talbot is a Providence girl, where she is well known, and where her books have large sales. There is a vein of quiet humor running through them which is peculiar, and quite unique, besides, they are positively original—of decided character—healthful, and deserving of all the success they get. Miss Talbot is young, and possessed of decided talent, and if in the near future she does not take a leading place among the American makers of books for children, the editor of the BOOK NOTES is no prophet.

The New Cook Book :

A single fellow can get along well enough, and a single woman can do likewise, but no sooner do the twain call in the services of a clergyman than they become instantly incapacitated from supporting the terrific burdens of a family. Just here comes in Marion Harland, otherwise Mrs. E. P. Terhune, with her new *Cottage Kitchen Cook Book* to tell us how the thing is to be done. Now there must have been a time when this lady revelled in the delights of single blessedness, she must therefore speak from experience. She knows just how it is herself. She must therefore be a competent guide, and the proof is in the clever familiar talks which she has interspersed here and there throughout her book. In these talks she discusses many subjects, among them Table Manners, The Maid of all Work, Flies, Country Boarding, Kitchenly Kindliness, and other things. These may not be so immediately useful as recipes, of which, by the way, the book is full, but they are wise, and clever and entertaining.

Zola's Latest:

Messrs. T. B. Peterson & Brother have translated and published seventeen novels by Emile Zola. Just now a new one is ready by this house; its name is *Her Two Husbands*. It comprises nine short novelettes of which *Her Two Husbands* is the first. This is the first of Zola's novels in which the story has been comprised in less than the whole volume. In this there is a variety of short sketches, each of which is characteristic of their author. Love scenes, coquetry, gallantry, murder, thieving, and such like things form the web and woof of the Zola Novels, and from these short stories they are not missing. Among the people to whom we are introduced, there are French anarchists, soldiers, students, and farmers, and good girls, bad girls, and other girls. The real life, if it is real life, must be French, it certainly isn't like any thing American.

Beyond the Gates:

In this new book Elizabeth Stuart Phelps undertakes to tell us more fully of the activities and the experiences of the Unseen World, a glimpse only, of which she gave us in her *Gates Ajar*. It is a work of her reverent imagination as the publishers inform us. Of course it must be a work of the imagination only, upon a subject upon which speculation is positively useless. When the dread verities of the unseen world confront us we shall know something about this matter, and not before. A sickly and sentimental novel works wickedly on the imagination, why does not this book also act in the same way.

The Wisdom of Goethe:

Prof. John Stuart Blackie, of the University of Edinburgh, a scholar not unknown to scholars, has just published a little book of extracts from Goethe. He calls it *The Wisdom of Goethe*, who has himself said the world is governed by wisdom, by authority, and by show. Mr. Blackie believes that it is the second of these directing powers, under the guidance of the first of them which should govern men, and to further this end he makes these excerpts from his author, which he considers sage maxims and wise warnings, in the hope that some of them, in this concrete form, will find a lodgment in the minds of Englishmen. Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons are its publishers.

Among the freshest books are Prof. Seeley's *Expansion of England*, a book which has been received with marked favor by the English reviewers.—The third portion of Prof. J. H. Allen's "Christian History." It proposes to cover the modern phases. The work is now complete.—Mr. Edwin Arnold comes with another volume of poems from the far east. *Indian Rhythms* is its name.—A new volume of poems, *In Nazareth Town*, a Christmas fantasy by Joseph W. Chadwick. These, and a new volume of *Heroic Ballads*, all from the press of Roberts Brothers, are the latest issues.

The sermon delivered by Bishop Clark at the opening of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, at Philadelphia, in Christ Church, on Wednesday, October 3d, 1882, has just been published in beautiful style. The subject of the discourse is "The Mission of the Episcopal Church." In the fulfilling of which the good Bishop urges his friends to walk in the old paths, but with accelerated pace, and with eyes looking forward and not backward.

Another new volume in Messrs. Roberts Brothers' Classic series is formed by a selection of Tales by Maria Edgeworth. These admirable stories have been too much out of fashion of late. Among others the volume contains *Waste Not Want Not*, *Simple Susan*, *The Mimic*, *Angelina*, *The Orphans*, etc.

Messrs. Roberts Brothers have brought out an edition of Southey's *Life of Lord Nelson* in their Classic series. It is reprinted from English plates. The evident use to which these plates have before been subjected is the best possible proof of the goodness of the book.

Muller's *Political History of Recent Times* is confined entirely to Europe. Its author although a German is generally fair in his treatment of questions. There's many a man in Providence who has never heard of this book, and who would not be specially damaged by having it handy.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1883.

No. 16.

Selections from Motley:

Our grandfathers and grandmothers had a way of picking out the most pleasing, or instructive, or interesting passages from their favorite authors, and labelling them *Beauties*. Thus they had beauties of Burke, beauties of Irving (the Scotch divine), beauties of Collyer, and many others. We do the same thing now, only by another name. We call them *Leaflets from Standard Authors*. Since my last BOOK NOTES, the Harpers have issued such a *Leaflet*. It consists of prose passages from the works of Mr. John Lothrop Motley. Among these selections will be found studies upon which Mr. Motley laid the foundations of a permanent historical fame. Among these are the Abdication of Charles V, The Siege of Leyden, The Biography of William the Silent, The life and death of Sir Philip Sidney, The Fire Ships, an invention during the siege of Antwerp, by Gianibelli, for the relief of the city,—practically they were marine volcanoes, constructed by human ingenuity,—and a great many others just as interesting. The little book is good for libraries, better for schools, best of all for the home table. How few of my readers will recognize in my citation of the *Beauties of Collyer* a Rhode Island production. Yet such is the fact, and a most ridiculous fact it is too. Collyer was an English clergyman, the pastor of a congregation on the outskirts of London. He was then, (1832), twenty-five years of age. These beauties were selected by the Rev. John O. Choules, at that time and long afterwards living at Newport. They were published for him in Boston in 1833. In a preface by the worthy Doctor he tells who Collyer was, that he had already published seven large octavo volumes, the first only of which had been republished in this country, and which was only the first fruits of his ministry, written when their author was a youth. These beauties were, however, the *ripe productions of his matured experience and profound attainments*. Is that not a rather florid account concerning a young fellow then twenty-five years old, and who died in 1854, and whose books in less than thirty years have been absolutely forgotten?

Anthony Trollope's Autobiography:

In some respects there is nothing in the whole field of literature to compare with the *Autobiography of Anthony Trollope*, just issued by the Harpers in their Franklin Square Series, and also in a substantial library volume. Mr. Trollope was, as almost everybody knows, a writer of novels. The Harpers have published forty-six different books written by him, all but three being novels. In the autobiography he tells the secret history of the production of each, of its success or failure in a financial point of view, and very frankly what he thought of it in an intellectual point of view. His account of his determination, in the face of successive defeats, to become the writer of novels, and his great success in the end is most interesting. The systematic method with which he laid out and prosecuted his work are unlike anything before written by any writer. When he undertook the writing of a novel he allotted himself an average of forty pages each week, as a page was ambiguous, he decided that each page should have two hundred and fifty words, and this exact rule he carried out with precision. When he sold a novel to a publisher, he sold him exactly so many words, and gave him precisely that number. The whole arrangement was exceedingly methodical. It was just as a man runs a cotton factory, only with a difference as to the balance sheets, if we take the balance sheets of a cotton factory just at present. Thirteen of his novels paid Mr. Trollope on an average \$15,000 each and are still good paying property. Even those that were disastrous at first, proved successful in the end. It is not very far from correct to say, that for each one of his literary productions he received on the average, about \$10,000. The whole book is exceedingly interesting, full of wit, and not a little good sound sense. His advice to young writers is a specimen of the latter. He says they fail because they have no story to tell, and he advises them not to try to write a story until they first get one. There is no other autobiography like Mr. Trollope's.

The Last and Best of Roman Histories:

The latest and in some respects the best writer of Roman History, is William Ihne, of Heidelberg. It is a History of the Republic, ending where Mr. Merrivale begins, about B. C. 300. The author wrote his work in both German and English, or he was in fact his own translator. which, however, he says, no author can be. The English edition of the work is in five volumes, the first of which appeared in England in 1871, and the last at the close of 1882. Mr. Ihne says he has aspired to impartiality, the highest and most difficult virtue of a historian; and then he defines impartiality to be that quality which guides the judge, even in passing judgment, to a just discrimination between right and wrong, and which does not cause the judge to shrink from pronouncing judgment. It is precisely in this character of a Judge, which Mr. Ihne appears in this work. He has heard the evidence. This is his charge. The world of scholars are the jurymen. No such sifting of historical evidence has the History of Rome ever before received as now, at the hands of this great historical, judicial critic. The chapter headings are indicative of the characters in which early authorities are held by the author. They are some of them. The Legend of Numa Pompilius, The Legend of Ancus Marcius, The Legend of Romulus, etc. While Mr. Ihne is the follower of no one, he frankly says, that had Arnold lived to embody in successive editions of his work the result of modern researches, that the present work would not have been undertaken. Yet he felt that Mr. Arnold had not emancipated himself from the willing bondage to Niebuhr. To the latter is unquestionably due the modern awakening of the German mind to independent historic criticism concerning Rome. But we have now reached a period distant enough from this great critic to enable his most devoted admirers to give expression to their differences of belief, a freedom which heretofore they have not dared to exercise. The key note to Mr. Ihne's History is probably a maxim laid down by Mr. George Cornwall Lewis in his "Inquiries concerning the Credibility of Early Roman History." Mr. Lewis says, "in order that the truth so perceived, should recommend itself to the convictions of others, it is a necessary condition that it should admit of proof which they can understand." When this test is applied to many of Niebuhr's propositions they were found to be unable to stand it, hence they have been set aside. While Mr. Ihne's History may not supercede all former writers covering the same period it must, and certainly will, modify every one of them.

Felicitas is the latest of Mr. William S. Gottsberger's popular translations from the German. It is a novel of the fifth century.

The Value of Early Advice to Mr. Trollope.

It seems to be a weakness in poor human nature, this willingness to give advice. The sense of superior understanding of the giver, over the receiver of advice, is pleasing to our vanity, and we lay the flattering unction to our souls, that we are really wise men, and can by a word straighten the crooked paths which others follow. He must, indeed, be a wise man, who can give such advice to another of his own species, as shall possess the essence of wisdom. Trollope's story of his undertaking literature as a profession, led to these reflections. His mother, his brother, his publishers, in fact everybody, advised him that he was unfitted to write books. In spite of these he wrote one. It was a total failure. He wrote another. It followed the first. His advisers all said, "we told you so," but Trollope was neither disheartened nor dismayed. He still wrote and continued to write, with the result that in twenty years he had become the foremost English living novelist. There is to-day not a spot on this globe, where the English language is read, and where Trollope's books cannot be found. In the lower, pecuniary point of view, these books had brought him nigh upon half a million of dollars of income. Such a career must indeed be called a success. Every one of his early advisers were all wrong, they knew nothing whatever about the matter upon which they assumed to give advice. Only the most heroic determination, and cool perseverance on the part of Trollope, the poor receiver of their advice, saved him. Read Trollope's autobiography and take courage. Harpers are its publishers.

The Expansion of England:

Prof. Seeley, in his recently published book, entitled the *Expansion of England*, suggests the idea of an immense confederation, made up of England and her numerous colonies. The tight little island would of course be the heart, while the various parts of the body would be scattered about, some of them lying in the uttermost parts of the earth. The scheme is indeed a grand one, suggested of course by a contemplation of the great American experiment. To read what Prof. Seeley says about them, would set the right ears of the entire Yankee nation a tingling. Were these BOOK NOTES large enough, some extracts would be printed. The results of the American Revolution upon the world have not begun to be dreamed. Here comes a man who says, that it was an event not only of greater importance, but on an altogether higher level of importance than almost any other in modern English history. The book is not only good, it is excellent, and well worth reading. It is published by Roberts Brothers.

The Sweet Singer of the Temple:

A fac-simile reprint of *The Temple*, a collection of sacred poems, and private ejaculations, by Mr. George Herbert, first published in 1633, has recently been made in London by Mr. T. F. Unwin. Its success was so great that three editions have thus far been called for. It has an introductory essay by Mr. Shorthouse, the author of *John Inglesant*. George Herbert, well called the sweet singer of the Temple, on his death bed, gave the manuscripts of these poems to a friend, to be published after his death, if thought worthy by the friend. From that day, even unto this, they have been the delight of all wise people. There is a world of wisdom hidden in their quaint expressions. George Herbert, who believed that the good that men do, may live after them, wrote these verses, thinking a verse may find him, who a sermon flies, and turn delight into a sacrifice. The good that he hoped for is still being accomplished. It seems scarcely possible that Lord Herbert, of Cherbury, the author of such a fantastic autobiography, a man we have come to look upon as a sort of quixotic knight errant, could be the brother of the gentle poet, George Herbert. Yet, strange as it is, it is true.

Perry's Greek Sculpture:

Mr. Walter Copeland Perry, has recently written a popular introduction to the History of Greek and Roman Sculpture. Mr. Perry's object was, first, to supply students with the first step in the study of ancient Greek and Roman Sculpture. The art of Sculpture is now practically a lost art. Second, to direct attention to one of the most interesting and characteristic sides of Greek life, and to show the intimate relation between Greek art, and the religious, political and social life of the Greek people. As aids to his narrative, the author has introduced about two hundred and sixty-eight wood cuts. Mr. Perry goes somewhat at length into the question of the antiquity of the tombs discovered by Schliemann at Mycenae. He describes minutely the Lion Gate at Mycenae, and the Niobe of Mount Sipylus. Two objects described by Pausanias more than seventeen centuries ago, and concerning the latter, of which he said, that as he stood near to the figure, which was four times the size of life, and cut into the face of the rock he could not distinguish it from the surrounding rock, but as he drew away from the figure it became beautifully distinct and well defined. 'Twas distance lent enchantment to the view. The book is a fresh and interesting one, on a most useful subject, and ought to be in every family.

MR. MATTHEW ARNOLD, will lecture at Providence, on the 30th instant.

Grey Hawk; His Adventures among the Wild Indians:

This book is a veritable autobiography. Its author was John Tanner, who, when a child, was stolen by the Indians in the far west, and becoming fascinated by their mode of life remained with them upwards of thirty years. He was stolen about 1789, and lived with them until 1822. About 1830 he visited New York. While there, this narrative was extracted from him and published, and it has now been republished under the editorial care of Dr. James Macaulay. A genuine story of real life like this, always possesses a much greater interest than any imaginary story can. Here, practically, an Indian tells the story of his haunts, his fights, his wigwams, his courtship, and his marriage to pretty Indian girl, of his family, how they lived, and were clothed, and fed,—such a tale, we say, possesses interest. The very simplicity of the narrative is charming. There is no boasting, nor tall talk. Plain, simple and direct, is the tale that is told. It will tell the present generation of things they never knew, or if they once knew, were long since forgotten. The title of the book will catch the eyes of the boys, but the story will tickle the ears of men. It is from the press of J. B. Lippincott & Co.

The very great differences in the prices of books is strikingly illustrated by a comparison between Miss Phelps' *Beyond the Gates*, just issued, by a Boston firm, and Mr. Green's *Short History of the English People*, published by the Harpers. Miss Phelps's book contains approximately 37,940 words and sells at \$1.25. Mr. Green's book contains approximately 493,899 words, besides many colored maps, and sells at \$1.20. Thus it will at once appear that at a price of \$16.25, Mr. Green's book would be far cheaper than Miss Phelps's book at \$1.25; or in another form, if Mr. Greene's History sells at \$1.20, *Beyond the Gates*, at the same rate, would sell for about nine and a quarter cents. But in a higher aspect, the intellectual one, the distance of the antipodes lies between the two books. One is an effort of a sickly sentimental imagination, founded upon no actual base whatever, and from reading of which one gets not one scintilla of truth. While the other is a careful and laborious research into the history of the greatest nation in the world, covering a period of 1,267 years. Let him who has made historic researches contemplate this labor.

Poe's Raven, with illustrations, by Doré, and published by Harper & Brothers, in a style of unrivalled excellence, as a Christmas gift fills at once the poetic sense, and the æsthetic eye. Buy it while you can get the first impressions of the plates. Much money will, by and by, be necessary to get a copy. The publishers have already gone to press with a second edition of five thousand copies.

Janet's Theory of Morals:

The fact that a former work by Paul Janet entitled *Final Causes*, attracted great attention in France, in England, and in America, among philosophic students of Theology, and that repeated editions were called for in each country, to supply the demand thus created, will doubtless be very instrumental in creating a present interest in a new work on a kindred subject, by the same writer; it is *The Theory of Morals*, published by Charles Scribner's Sons. The author in his preface tells us what he has attempted, practically thus: Not only a clear and concise examination of the whole study of moral science, but he has introduced into the discussion many elements which have hitherto been too much neglected; he elucidates many of the difficulties which beset the student, and suggests important new subjects for investigation. The first principles of moral science and the fundamental idea of morals he undertakes to describe with precision, and to present an interesting and systematic exposition of them. Paul Janet is a member of the French Academy, which fact stamps him as a man of the highest intellectual quality, and will give an interest to anything he may write.

Mr. Thomas W. Knox, who has during the past five years, written a series of books of travel for young people, has this year finished the series with *Travels Across Africa*. The series thus completed takes the boys through Japan, China, Siam, Java, Ceylon, India, Egypt, Palestine, and new Africa. Which is best for young people, books of biography, or books of travel, seems impossible for us definitely to determine. We read a good biography, and we decide that biography is the best, which opinion holds good until we get a good book of travel, and then we think people better take a few books of each kind. These books by Mr. Knox, are fully illustrated in the best style of the Harper's Juveniles.

Five Minutes Daily Readings in Poetry, is the name of an exceedingly pretty collection of short poems, which grew out of a conversation between two distinguished men, and overheard by the son of one of them, and who acted on the suggestion. One said that it was his daily habit, and had long been to learn each morning by heart, a few lines of poetry before leaving his dressing-room, and that he was himself astonished at the rapid rate his stock increased. It is to help such fellows, that Mr. Thomas Whitaker, of New York, publishes this book.

At once the cheapest and the best, is Chambers' *Cyclopedia*, ever kept up with the history of the time.

The Cottage Kitchen by Marion Harland is growing in favor as rapidly as her other books treating of household cares. Scribner publishes it.

The destruction of oysters was once so great along Narragansett Bay, by burning them to make lime, that such use of them was prohibited by special statute.

Mr. W. J. Ashley in his Lothian Prize Essay, on *James and Philip Van Artevelde* endeavors to bring into more prominent notice, the connections of these men with the development of Ghent and other Flemish towns.

Notes on the Caucasus, a new book just ready by Macmillan, gives us the freshest account of these ancient, but little known people. The operations of the Russians here, are well set forth.

A man who can buy the whole works of Charles Dickens, in fifteen volumes, in large type, and well bound, for 50 cents a volume, or \$7.50 for the set, certainly ought not to find fault with the price. Try at 17 Westminster street for it.

Elegant sets of Waverley Novels, Dicken's Novels, Simms' Novels, Shakespeare's Plays, Macaulay's Essays and his History of England, Charles Lamb's Essays, can be had at 17 Westminster, at ridiculously low prices.

The second volume of Schaff's History of the Christian Church, is just ready by Scribner. It covers the period A. D. 100-325, and is denominated Antient Christianity. The first council of Nice was held A. D. 325, the second one 550 years later.

The fourth and concluding volume of the Illustrated Popular Commentary on the New Testament, under the editorial care of Dr. Schaff, but written by many distinguished biblical scholars, has just been issued by the Scribners.

Mr. Francis Galton, whose work on *Hereditary Genius* attracted great attention, has just issued a new work of a kindred nature, *Inquiries into Human Faculty and its Development*. In it there is much concerning a most curious discovery by this gentleman of composite portraiture.

Mrs. Molesworth, an English woman who has written several successful books for children, to wit, *Carrots*, and the *Cuckoo Clock*, has just ready a new one, *Two Little Ways*. It has illustrations by Walter Crane. It is for quite young children. It is a quiet, pure, simple story. The intellectual muscles, (if such there are), will not be kept at an extreme tension while the child reads it.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

THE
NEWBERRY
LIBRARY
CHICAGO

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1883.

No. 17.

Mr. Bancroft on the Charter Government of Rhode Island:

There is a common belief here in Rhode Island, that Mr. Bancroft modified somewhat the views of the government of Rhode Island, under the Charter of Charles the Second, held by him and embodied in the original edition of his *History of the United States*, and that in the editions of his history, succeeding the year 1842, the period of what is commonly called the Dorr War, he materially changed, on account of that event, for the worse, what he had previously eulogized. In an article in the *New York Tribune*, in 1848, this alleged change, while not distinctly stated, is plainly to be inferred. This is altogether erroneous. That which Mr. Bancroft wrote and printed in his first edition stands to day in his latest edition essentially unchanged. Here is what he said in his first edition, V. 2, p. 64, Boston, 1837: "This charter of government *constituting as it then seemed a pure democracy*, and establishing a political system which few, besides the Rhode Islanders themselves, believed to be practicable, is still in existence, and is the oldest constitutional charter, now valid, in the world. *It has outlived the principles of Clarendon, and the policy Charles the Second.* The probable population of Rhode Island at the time of its reception, may have been two thousand five hundred. In one hundred and seventy years, that number has increased forty fold; and the government which was hardly thought to contain checks enough, on the power of the people, to endure, even among shepherds and farmers, protects a dense population, and the accumulation of a widely extended commerce. No where in the world have life, liberty and property been safer than in Rhode Island." Here is what he said in his latest edition, V. 1, p. 363, New York, 1883. "This charter of government, establishing a political system which few besides the Rhode Islanders themselves then believed to be practicable, remained in existence till it became the oldest constitutional charter in the world. The probable population of Rhode Island, at the time of its reception, may have been two thousand five hundred. In

one hundred and seventy years that number increased forty fold; and the government which was hardly thought to contain checks enough on the power of the people, to endure, even among shepherds and farmers, protected a dense population and the accumulation of a widely extended commerce. Nowhere in the world were life, liberty, and property safer than in Rhode Island." The only words of consequence contained in the first, and omitted in the second, I have italicized in the first extract. Other than in the necessary changes of tense, there is no change. Thus it is apparent, at a glance, that so far as his history is concerned, Mr. Bancroft made no change, and that the common belief is erroneous. This opinion arose in this way:—In May, 1842, at a meeting of the friends of Mr. Dorr, in Boston, Mr. Bancroft is alleged to have made a speech, which the *Boston Atlas* without reporting the speech, describes as "the insane and senseless bawling of a ferocious demagogue." Something over two years later in 1844, this same paper, the *Atlas*, published a paragraph purporting to be an extract from Mr. Bancroft's speech. To this paragraph, which is addressed to Mr. Bancroft, it prefixes these words: "We will not be sure that we give your precise words, but they are very near to those you uttered, and we are quite sure we do not exaggerate their purport." Thereupon they were reproduced in the *Journal* of this city, and comments were made with the following caption: "Mr. Bancroft's alterations in his *History*." Thus upon words, thrust by a political antagonist, into Mr. Bancroft's mouth, more than two years after their alleged utterance, and with no pretence of relying on any contemporary preservation, or record, has this charge been founded. There is besides what I have stated a letter, written by Mr. Bancroft, in August, 1844, in reply to an invitation to attend a Liberation meeting at Providence. In this letter, Mr. Bancroft condemned the imprisonment of Mr. Dorr in the severest terms, and urged his liberation upon every humane or just consideration. The phrase in this letter, which doubtless strengthened the belief referred to, runs thus: "The royal charter lingered beyond its usefulness, Dorr did but reveal the



fact that its life was gone past all resuscitation, even by martial law. In the midst of their triumph its worshippers confessed to one another that it was hopelessly dead."

If I were to admit the extract from the speech to be true as reported, and to add to it the extract from the letter, it would not convict Mr. Bancroft of inconsistency. Both are perfectly in accord with his History, which was practically in that respect unchanged from the day it was first written to the present.

Solomon Girder, the Second-hand Bookseller;

One of the most interesting stories in Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton's new book for children, *Firelight Stories* is Solomon Girder's Customers. Solomon was a seller of second-hand books in the great city of London. Rejected in early life by the girl he loved, he became a recluse in his old book-shop. Late one night, two children, a boy and a girl, stopped in his shop to find a book suited to their slender means. They were the orphan children of Olivette, the girl, who, in his early days, Solomon had loved. In the girl's eyes he saw again the eyes he had once loved so well. The children became frequent visitors. At first Solomon tried to think he hated them, but presently he became interested in them. Books which they wanted, but which were beyond their means, he would mark at a lower price, hide them away until the children came again, and then adroitly place them where the children would surely find them. Thus by closer contact they warmed the genial current of his soul. He cared for them, took them to himself, and was happy. How curious ly things come about. Years ago, when the writer of these BOOK NOTES was a child living in Pomfret, there lived near by a young woman who had just then begun to write verses and sketches, for publication in the papers and magazines. Her name was Ellen Louise Chandler. Notwithstanding I never saw her, I used to hear a great deal about her. Now here she is, describing the very craft of which I am myself a member. A dealer in second-hand books becomes, by the nature of his occupation, if long continued, a very peculiar individual. It is singular that no careful study of such a character has ever been made. Take for instance, Mr. Gowans, or Mr. Drake, or Mr. Burnham, (only he is still living), and closely study and preserve their idiosyncracies. Nothing more entertaining could be written. There is old Monkbarus in the Antiquary, he was only a buyer of antique books, but what a splendid character Scott made out of him. Had he been both a buyer and seller he would have been twice as entertaining. Mrs. Chandler is a first rate writer,—she can not do better than try her hand on such a fellow. Her new *Firelight Stories* are from the press of Robert Brothers.

Splendid Family Voyages:

Ever since Mr. Jay Gould set about buying a steam-ship, and proposed to go a sailing around the world, we have conceived a great respect for him. The reasonableness of a man's wasting his physical substance in amassing a hundred millions we could never understand. But when a man takes his family and his friends forth on such a voyage, it comes just within our comprehension, it is a sensible thing. A little while ago it was the Brassey family in the *S. S. Sturbeam*, and a capital thing Mrs. Brassey made out of it. Just now, in a magnificent volume, the Lambert family tell us the story of their voyaging in their *S. S. Wanderer*. They carried along with them, besides the family physician, and family pastor, and sailing-masters, and boatswains, and stewards, and valets, a capital artist, and he made the most of his time, with results, as herein can be seen, of many beautiful colored illustrations of out-of-the-way localities, thus visited. Here is their itinerary. Leaving England they first touched at Vigo and Lisbon—thence to Funchal in Madeira—to the Gaboon in Africa, between the mouths of the Niger and the Congo rivers—thence to St. Helena—to Brazil, skirting the eastern coast of South America, and touching at many points—through the Straits of Magellan, and up the west coast as far as Coquimbó—from there to the Marquesas, the Fiji, and the Sandwich Islands—thence to Nipon in Japan, to China, and through the Straits of Malacca to Ceylon—thence through the Red Sea, the Suez Canal, and the Mediterranean, home. Stopping when and where they pleased, and staying as long as they pleased, simply a private family pleasure trip, lasting a couple of years. There is something in it, which a sensible man can contemplate with satisfaction.

Mr. Charles Nordhoff's Supplement to Paley:

Mr. Charles Nordhoff, who has hitherto written books about California, about the Communist Societies in this country, about the sea coast cities and towns along the Atlantic's side, about Politics for young Americans, has just now issued from the press of the Harpers, a little book which he calls *God and the Future Life*, wherein he sets forth his reasons for the faith which is in him. Mr. Nordhoff, under the impression that Paley's *Natural Theology* was a little astern of the age, and that it does not quite supply an antidote to all the important discoveries, and new theories of these latter days, undertakes to remedy the difficulty. Primarily he writes, he tells us, for his own, and other people's young folks, but he is not unwilling that thoughtful elders may herein find comfort and support.

A History of Greece, on a New Model:

In their *Mosaics of Grecian History*, the Messrs. Willson, in a sort of joint authorship, have written a historical narrative of Grecian history and literature, into which they have introduced illustrative, poetic and prose selections from many authors. As an illustration of their work, I will select the Fate of Troy. Beginning with a brief outline, in which the construction of the wooden horse is set forth, the authors at once introduce the story which Virgil makes Æneas tell to Dido the Queen of Carthage. Then how Sinon, a Greek, a captain held by the Trojans, induced the latter to haul the hollow horse into the city, and how in the dead of the night he opened it, and let loose the Greeks within the fated town. Virgil is again introduced, and Schiller follows; the former in Dryden's, and the latter in Bulwer's translations. Then follows extracts from Thirlwall and Grote in their own language. The latter of whom when asked if there really was not some such historical Trojan war, as is herein narrated, prudently says, "as the possibility of it cannot be denied, so neither can the reality of it be affirmed." The more recent alleged discoveries by Schliemann, are very delicately alluded to, but nothing more. This book is just what its authors call it, Literary Mosaics, extracts from Grote, Thirlwall, Heeren, Mahaffy, Mure, Gillies, Rawlinson, Mitford, and many other writers upon Greek History and Literature, with extracts from the poets interspersed, with just enough original matter as will give cohesion to the narrative. The *web* is designed to be a readable history of Greece, whereof the *woof* is poetry and fiction. The Harpers are its publishers.

A Good Novel, Wherein is Delin- eated Italian Life:

The Jewel in the Lotus, is a novel written by Mary Agnes Tincker, the author of the anonymous story, *Signor Monaldini's Niece*. The characters are principally Italians, and the scene is laid in Italy. It is exceedingly well written. The narrative of the acts of the brigands with their prisoners, held for ransom, in a mountain cave near Sansovino, is exceedingly graphic. One's blood grows hot at the mere story. This is evidence of the power of the author with the pen. They in Europe talk of the barbarism of the Americans. We must then indeed be barbaric, but we have nothing quite equal to this polite system of brigandage, which prevails even to this day in both Greece and Italy. One the birthplace of the arts, and the other the birthplace of the laws. I know of no book wherein one can get a better description of this exercise upon the body politic, brigandage, than in this novel of Miss Tincker's. Messrs. Lippincott & Co. are its publishers. Its a first rate American novel.

A Clever Novel, Wherein is Depicted Social Life in New England:

Messrs. Lippincott & Co., have recently published an American novel, under the name *Laura*, by Elizabeth H. Evans. Laura was a Boston girl, whose father having business at San Francisco, sent his family down to the coast of Maine, a summering. Laura had a cousin, one Lillian by name, whom she invited to go along with them. These two find a friend in a Miss Hartwell from Chicago. This trio of pretty girls, formed rather an effective battery for a staid old fellow like the Mr. Cleveland of the story, to face. Its an interesting episode in the story where Miss Hartwell offers herself in marriage to Mr. Cleveland. We have often wondered, whether the girls, if they had this terrible duty on their hands, would make any better work with it than the young fellows do. In this story Miss Evans gives us just a glimpse. The truth was, Miss Hartwell wanted to marry Mr. Cleveland, but he didn't want her to do so. Then Miss Lillian wanted to marry him, and she didn't hesitate to let him know her wish; but as the boys say, he didn't tumble. Then there remained Laura, who really loved Mr. Cleveland more than both the others together, but she never told her love. Under such circumstances the proper thing was for Mr. Cleveland to fall desperately in love with Laura, which he did at once. This policy of Laura's shows clearly the wisdom of the advice given by Mrs. Rivers to Tom Ellicsmere, in Mrs. Forrester's new novel *June*. Tom wanted to marry June, her daughter. Her advice was to play off with her. It seems to have succeeded in both cases. Mrs. Forrester's *June* is also published by the house of Lippincott, Both are stories of the sublime passion.

It makes no difference what comes, *Dore's Illustration of Poe's Raven* will be the grandest book this season. Buy it early and get the first impressions of the magnificent plates. Hereafter a great deal of money will be required to get one of these books which I am now begging people to buy.

The folly of subscribing for books is well illustrated by Mark Twain's new book *Life on the Mississippi*. It is sold in England by all dealers at 7s. 6d., or \$1.57. In this country it sells for \$3.75, and is to be had only by subscription. This book sold in the ordinary way could not, by any possibility, be sold for over two dollars. It is amazing how this trick of subscription has succeeded in this country. There is but one possible reason for ever asking for advance subscriptions for books, and that is, that by reason of great cost they could not otherwise be produced.

What Girls Can Do :

There is in England an Association of Ladies for the promotion of Minor Food Products. Such, for instance, as honey, chickens, eggs, butter, berries, small fruits and vegetables. Some account of this Association can be found in a small English book, *What Girls Can Do*, by Mrs. Phillip Browne. A woman, about her household cares, is no more a household drudge, than a man, about his rougher out-door cares, is an out-door drudge. Let us have done with the phrase. There is something good about this idea of minor food culture. It must be healthful, and it can be made productive, even profitable. Why not try it? Why is it that whenever seekers for occupation for women begin operations, they always begin with, mending old clothes for the poor, or picking up parcels for the Hospitals, or collecting subscriptions, or how to clean floors that are stained, not carpeted, and such like things. Why in the name of common sense not let the poor mend their own clothes. It will give them work, and work is what we are seeking. Why not let those who have parcels for the hospitals extend their charity far enough to send the parcels to the hospitals, and not oblige young women, who might be otherwise usefully employed, to travel after them. In these matters it is time we stopped writing nonsense, and begin to write sense. In my eyes if there is a degrading, menial occupation, it is collecting subscriptions. Why should a woman, otherwise respectable, be subjected to it. There is one piece of advice in this book in which I most fully coincide. It is that a young woman is fully justified in valuing highly, and caring for, and making the most of, the personal charms which nature has bestowed upon her.

The Heart and Hand Mission Band:

There is in Providence some young ladies who have formed themselves into a private Missionary Society. They call themselves the *Heart and Hand Mission Band*. Now there lives in the Telugu land, in Hindostan, a little girl, Uchima is her native name. This bright little child these young women have undertaken to clothe, and educate, in fact to provide all her physical and mental requirements. There is practical christianity in this sort of work. Unobtrusive it is, but effective. In a neat little pamphlet they have printed the story of Uchima, or Rhoda as they now call her, just for themselves and their friends to read. The writer is not a member of the Band, but he hopes the name Uchima, which is distinctive, will not be lost.

A correspondent of the *Press* in an article on Ancient Marriage Customs, has used the facts contained in one of these BOOK NOTE articles under the date, May 26, without due credit being given.

Funny Blunders :

A well known firm of Providence booksellers advertised Webster's Quarto Dictionary in this luminous style: "This work is increasing in demand as the sale progresses, varying in this particular from all others." Another very respectable bookseller here, had a small sign whereon we read: "If you don't see anything you want, ask for it." A well known Providence lawyer emerged from the vault in the Court House, where the clerk's keep the tin boxes for papers, with alarm depicted on his face, and exclaiming "there is one box in there that is missing," that is as good as anything in Edgeworth. Not long since a bookseller here charged to the account of one of my friends *Aaron Deane's Case*. Never having purchased a cane, he inquired as to the item. It was finally developed into *Arundine Case*, the well known adaptations of Nursery Rhymes to the Latin and Greek by Oxford and Cambridge students. Nearly as good was *Rabindras* for the Arabian Nights. Not long since an order was brought to me of which here follows a verbatim copy, "Hager's Elementary Rithmatic. No. 1 Righting Book. Warren's New Primary Geography. Ante Nichles (Analytical, 2 Reader."

The Story of a Man's Heart:

The author of these BOOK NOTES is not the man to pronounce a book wise, or great, or good, simply because he can't understand a word of the author's meaning. Ever since Mr. Richard Jeffrey's little *Story of My Heart* came, he has been trying to understand what it was all about. He gives it up. When a man speaks of the necessity of a strong inspiration of soul thought. When he tells me that his heart is dusty. When he informs me that a species of thick clothing grows about his mind. When he takes an inspiration of the pure air of thought. When he desires the soul equivalent of the sun's light and brilliancy, I frankly confess he deals in terms which I do not understand, and I do not like to read what I cannot comprehend. The little book is a reprint of the English edition by Roberts Brothers.

Susan Coolidge's Latest:

The worst thing about Susan Coolidge's new book for children is its name, *A Round Dozen*. Probably the name arose from the number thirteen stories in the book. One of these stories, Helen's Thank-giving, is *apropos* to the time. It is, like everything Miss Coolidge writes, bright and cheery in style, but then one conceives such a contempt for Helen's mother that she becomes almost intolerable. She was one of those beings possessed of abundant wealth, but devoid of every other desirable attribute of a good woman. Susan Coolidge has come to be looked upon as one of the best living writers of books for girls of twelve to fifteen years of age. This book, while not as clever as are several of hers which have preceded it, is yet a very good collection of stories for children.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1883.

No. 13.

The New History of Art:

Beyond all comparison, the most valuable work on the History of Art, published in recent years, was that issued last December by Georges Perrot and Charles Chipiez, on Egyptian Art. This December they have ready a work supplementary to their former one, confined to the *History of Art in Chaldea and Assyria*. Like its predecessor, it is in two volumes, technically called imperial octavo, and still more like it, it is profusely illustrated with upwards of five hundred engravings, many of them of the full size of the page, and beautifully colored. These Histories are accepted by all scholars as the most profound and scholarly treatises yet written, reaching back to the very origins of all modern art and architecture, and opening to the eyes of us moderns, the very foundations of civilization. Not only will no work of the present season surpass it, but I am perfectly safe in saying that no work published during the present season will even approach it. It appeals directly to the very best class of readers, on a matter concerning which those blessed with abundant wealth are under heavy obligations to the poor. For the poor have been given eyes by their Creator, and intellects, too, but they are, by an untoward fortune, forbidden to purchase and to own. Thus the rich must supply, or the poor must go without. Messrs. Armstrong & Son have, in connection with an English House, published a limited edition of this excellent book.

Good Night and Good Morning:

Lord Houghton's Poem, *Good Night and Good Morning* has been very daintily issued in a neat quarto form, with illustrations by Walter Severn. The leaves instead of being bound in the ordinary way, are tied with a couple of white ribbons, and then the whole again tied with an old golden, silken cord. The illustrations are rather illuminations than illustrations. They are peculiar in tint as they are in character; of their class there is nothing better. Lord Houghton was the Richard Monckton Milnes, of former days. His poem is published by Roberts Brothers.

Hunting and Trapping in the Woods of Maine:

It is said that it is better *late* than *never*, but I can't understand why Lucius L. Hubbard did not write, and publish, his *Woods and Lakes of Maine*, long ago. It is the story of a trip from Moosehead Lake to New Brunswick, *mainely* in a birch-bark canoe. The book is beautifully printed and more beautifully illustrated. So far as *exteriors* are concerned it is everything that could be desired. The author, Mr. Hubbard, has written of this region before, but it was a guide-book, and guide-books come not within the domain of literature. This book fairly enters that field. It is not only a most entertaining story, but it is likewise a capital book of directions, as to how you should pack your traps, or shoot a caribou, or trap a beaver, or do a hundred other things in the wild woods, which every one wishes to do, but few know how. Half the battle is in selecting guides, Joe, with whom we become acquainted in the story, was a good one, but Joe says when he came first into the woods of Maine it wasn't all frolic. Here is his own account: "Since I come over from Canada I've been study the long-gwage and now I kin buy my own grub, and write my own letters. I done pretty well for me. I never was in English school. I have eight children when I first come into Maine. Nine weeks afterwards my wife died. I call it devilish hard time." My curiosity is excited as to the explosive the wife would have used under the circumstances. This most interesting book is published by Osgood & Co.

Gray's Elegy with American Designs:

Messrs. Roberts Brothers have issued their beautiful Harry Fenn edition of *Gray's Elegy* in a reduced size. The plates and text are the same, the margins only are reduced. *Tempus Fugit*, is on the cover, but as time flies, the affections of men for this beautiful poem always remain fast fixed. There is nothing so elevated in character, and so depressed in price, as this beautiful Christmas gift.

A Boy's Life of Lincoln :

Mr. Horatio Alger, Jr., is to-day one of the best writers of books for boys. No one will question that a life of Abraham Lincoln would, if well written, be a most useful book for boys. Here, then, is the union of the two: a capital writer on an excellent subject—*Alger's New Life of Abraham Lincoln*. The boy that was born on the day Mr. Lincoln was shot, will be nineteen years old next April. History has not preserved the record of so good, or so great a man. One of the wisest political men of whom we have any knowledge, he was as pure in spirit as he was wise. Pausanias tells us that the beauty of the great statue of Niobe on Mount Sipylas became more and more apparent as he receded from it; so with Mr. Lincoln's character, as time elapses his historic figure becomes colossal, and the day has already come when he appears one of the grandest characters in history. Moreover he was so simple; but simplicity is of the very essence of grandeur. Study, then, the life and character of Mr. Lincoln.

A Girl's Life of Victoria :

Grace Greenwood has just ready a capital book for young women. It is a *Life of Queen Victoria*, her girlhood and womanhood. Not since the days of Zenobia has there lived such a queen as Victoria. Not only is she a queen, but she is far more than a queen, she is an excellent woman. If Garfield's death had produced nothing else than Mr. Lowell's fine sentence in which he embodied this idea, it could not be said that it was fruitless. In a speech referring to the gift of flowers, and an autograph personal letter, sent by Victoria to Mrs. Garfield, Mr. Lowell said: "It shows how true a woman's heart can beat beneath the royal purple." It is an excellent idea, this of writing a popular life of this most excellent woman. It ought to be read, and doubtless will be, by a great many people.

Waverly Novels for the Million :

A perfect marvel of cheapness is the new Peterson edition of the Waverly Novels. The publishers well call it their edition for the million. It is issued, a volume each week for twenty-six weeks, at the price of fifteen cents a volume or, if a person will order the set, it will be sent for \$3.00, payment to accompany the order, which may be sent direct to the publishers or through the writer of this paragraph. A fine portrait of Scott, suitable for framing, is to be given to each purchaser of the entire set.

Mr. Mathew Arnold lectures on Literature and Science, at Sayles' Memorial Hall, on Monday evening, December 3d, at 8 o'clock. Some effort ought to be made to have Mr. Arnold deliver here his splendid lecture on Emerson.

The New Memoir of Maria Edgeworth :

If by the publication of this new *Memoir of Maria Edgeworth*, by Helen Zimmern, in the Famous Women Series, by Roberts Brothers, the attention of people should be newly awakened to the excellent quality of some of Miss Edgeworth's books for children, especially the Parents' Assistant, The Early Lesson, Frank, Rosamond, and Harry and Lucy, and the young ones should set about reading them, a great good would be accomplished. From this distance of time we have come to look back upon Miss Edgeworth as a purely literary woman, but she had her family cares just like the rest of us. Farm work, and everything else to attend to, she was a woman of business, and she worked on a story now and then as she found odd minutes. It is the use of these odd minutes in life that counts. When Miss Edgeworth began to write books for children, it was working in a new field. Nobody had tried it. The best writers looked down, upon such literary work, [if indeed literary work they deigned to call it. Think for a moment what a change has taken place, and what a library of books for children could now be collected. No memoir of Miss Edgeworth has hitherto been published. One was written by her stepmother but it was not printed. Miss Edgeworth died in 1849 at the age of 82. In speaking of this approaching event she was fond of saying "she should rise from the banquet of life where she had been a happy guest." She spoke of her life as wholly domestic and uninteresting to people. Those who read the story of her life will not agree with her. She was not one of those superfluous women about whom Mrs. Livermore talks. The book is excellent.

The Spiritual Guide of Molinos :

A renewed interest in the history of Molinos and that remarkable religious sect, the Quietists, was aroused a year or two ago by Mr. John Bigelow's monograph, entitled *Molinos the Quietist*, published by Roberts Brothers. In his little book he quoted largely from the "Spiritual Guide," which was first published by Molinos at Rome in 1675. During the six years that followed, the book ran through twenty editions in different languages, and an English translation appeared in 1699. Since that time it is believed no re-issue of the work has been published in English. For the present volume Mr. Shorthouse, the author of "John Inglesant," writes a preface, in which he pays a tribute to "these beautiful words of blessing and peace." A short sketch of the life of Molinos, prepared by Prof. Lindsay, of the Free Church College, Glasgow, is also given. The little book is published in very pretty style by Charles Scribner's Sons.

The Nature of Positive Law:

Mr. John M. Lightwood, a Barrister of Lincoln's Inn, has recently issued through the house of Macmillan, a treatise on the *Nature of Positive Law*. He says that the rules of law depend upon a number of matters, upon the knowledge of economies, upon the progress of ethics, and upon changes in society. At intervals then, it is necessary, for a radical change to be made. As when rights exist which offend the general sense of justice, they are boldly taken away and conferred upon another and different class of persons. Such radical change is beyond the power of jurisprudence, which may, however, point the way. The actual change must be made by the combined will of all, for so only can conflicting interests be satisfied. As if to prepare the way for some such radical change, some of the best English scholars have been pursuing their inquiries back to the origin of things, to Primitive Society, to the Village Community, and to there learn of the origin of Private Rights, how they were protected, and how regulated, and of the origin of Law. In a couple of chapters, Mr. Lightwood sets forth the differences which characterize the Modern German and the Modern English school of Jurisprudence. In certain respects this work opposes the theories of Mr. Austin, in his *System of Jurisprudence*, and seems to be more in accord with the more recent works of Sir Henry Maine, in the same directions.

The Story of the Boy Knight:

A writer in the *Spectator* (London) a few days since, in speaking of the most popular writers of books for children, mentions among others G. A. Henty. This opinion was obtained by sending out through England the question, Who is the most popular writer? to the boys themselves, and getting some four thousand answers. Messrs. Roberts Brothers have just issued a book by this Mr. Henty. It is called *The Boy Knight*. It is a tale of the Crusades, of a boy who won his spurs fighting with King Richard of England to recover Jerusalem from the hands of the infidel. In running through it to gather the story and the style, I became so much interested that an effort was actually required to lay it down. If there is anything that would tempt an old fellow to begin life over again it would be to have a good chance at some of these books for young people. Positively they are admirable. How many boys who read this story will know, when they come across the word *quarrel*, that it means an arrow with a spiked head, such as was used in the cross-bows of the period. Hunt out the words you can't understand, boys; but Webster won't help you in this case.

Doré's splendid Illustrations to the *Raven*, the regular price for which is \$10.00, is now sold at 17 Westminster street, for \$6.00.

Goldsmith, Bunyan, Defoe:

Messrs. Roberts Brothers have added the *Vicar of Wakefield* to their classic series. This book, first published in 1766, has passed through not less than a hundred editions. Goldsmith said in his preface, that a book may be amusing with numerous errors. He could not have had in view McMaster's History, for it was not then published. There ought to be a new classification for such books as this of McMaster's, they can't be called History, and one doesn't exactly wish to call them Fiction.

The same publishers have added to this same classic series, Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. In this edition they have inserted the *Fac-simile* Title-pages and other illustrations as they were originally published in the first edition. It may not possess a money value, but it pleases me to look upon these old title pages and see them just as John Bunyan himself saw them. Mayhap I am growing sentimental. Another addition to this same Classic Library is Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, a book which has been relegated to the use of children, but which was written by its author for men and women, and moreover is in every respect worthy of their mature consideration. This edition has been enriched with the sixteen beautiful plates which Thomas Stothard made for Stockdale's magnificent edition.

Cardinal Newman's Hymn:

One of the prettiest Christmas Books for the coming season is, *Lead, Kindly Light*, the celebrated Hymn by John Henry (Cardinal) Newman. The Hymn is of course well known, but it will acquire a new meaning, to many people, when they come to look upon these beautiful engravings. They are entirely American, which is all the more satisfactory to us. Moreover, there's hours of study in one of these beautiful pages. Take for instance the lines, "I loved the garrish day, and, spite of fears, Pride ruled my will," and see what a conception the artist had of them and how deftly with his pencil he has set forth the meaning of the author. It is from the press of Roberts Brothers.

This is the third year of the publication of *Ben Hur*, and yet the sale of it is still increasing. It is said, although with how much truth I know not, that when Gen. Wallace began writing this novel, he had other ends in view, than those he finally arrived at, more perhaps of the type of Bob Ingersoll. As his studies progressed his views changed, and he who came to scoff, remained to pray. Man proposes, God disposes.

Magazines at club rates at 17 Westminster street. Harper's Magazine at \$3.25, delivered free anywhere in the United States. Any American or English periodical at club rates.

Mrs. Dodge's Donald and Dorothy:

Mary Mapes Dodge is one of those writers who has, without knowing it, adopted the advice given by Trollope to authors in his autobiography. This advice was, never to undertake to tell a story until you first get one to tell. Messrs. Roberts Brothers have just issued a very handsome volume by Mrs. Dodge, entitled, *Donald and Dorothy*, in which this advice is well exemplified. The story has a beginning, a middle portion and an ending. A ship was wrecked; on her were three babies; one was lost and two were saved. Donald, one of the saved babies, whose father and mother were lost, was taken care of by his uncle George. The other two babies, Dorothy and Delia, became slightly mixed; one was lost, and nobody could tell which was the other. Finally the one saved was taken by uncle George to be the sister of Donald, and in that relationship grows to girlhood. Presently along comes a lean and lank Yankee who claims that Dorothy was really Delia. Now Donald declines to lose his beloved sister in that way, and so he sets about it at once to prove her identity. And he does it, too, by some adroit personal detective work. The readers of St. Nicholas will remember this story, as it ran through the pages of that magazine for the year 1882. Mrs. Dodge was the author of Hans Brinker, an excellent book. If she had never written a book other than Hans Brinker, she would have laid the young readers under obligations during their whole lives. But here is one just as good, in fact, all her stories are excellent.

Miss Blanche Willis Howard's Guenn.

Mr. Everett Hamor was an artist, an American painter. He went to Brittany, in France, to follow his art. In the picturesque and quiet seacoast town of Plouvenec he resolved to study. Here he studied the Breton Folk, and particularly among them, Guenn Rodellec, a young and most charming Breton girl. Guenn became a model for the artist in a picture—a model she was, to the admiration of the artist. The artist made love to Guenn and captured the heart of the young, brave, confiding, simple girl, and then in the end abruptly left her to suicide and to her God. The artist sent his picture to Paris, the world applauded, and the Medal of Honor was the reward of men. Scattered through the story are many exciting scenes well wrought out and well written. But as a whole Miss Blanche Willis Howard has not done work enough upon it. It is too long; by more labor she would have condensed, and by condensing she would have improved what remained. Still, Guenn is a most carefully drawn character, lovely as she was lovable, and the finely suppressed irony in the fine delineations of Hamor's character is occasionally clever. The story is, on the whole, a good one. Messrs. Osgood & Co. are its publishers.

Antiquarian Historical Notes:

In 1770, cages were ordered to be built in Newport to hold slaves, or other negroes, out after nine o'clock in the evening.

Bonfires were once so common here in Rhode Island on Gun-Powder-Treason-Day, November 5th, that they were suppressed by law, except by permission of the Town Officers.

Once upon a time barberry bushes were considered so destructive to English grain, here in Rhode Island, that a special law was thought necessary to insure their destruction. By this law, a man could enter upon a neighbor's premises, in its sovereign capacity, and destroy them.

Miss Ingelow's High Tide in Lincolnshire:

The fine poem by Jean Ingelow, entitled, *The High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire*, relating to an old legend of the breaking in of the sea there in 1571. Boston, in Lincolnshire, was the birth-place and home of the poetess, and thus an opportunity was given the publishers to introduce several engravings of scenes and things which cluster around the life of Miss Ingelow; and now, when her name circles the earth, we may be pardoned in taking an interest in them, however personal in their character they may be. The fine engravings in this book are American. There is something pleasant in the fact that this poem concerning old Boston in England should be so beautifully illustrated and published in new Boston in America.

Harpers' Young People, the New Volume:

Are you tired in spirit, and worn with worldly cares? Then buy for the children the new volume of Harper's Young People; but before you let them have it, sit down by yourself, forget your worldly cares and just enjoy it. Laughing is the sovereign remedy for most of the ills that flesh is heir to. Buy this book and you will laugh; an anchorite couldn't help it. Week by week, as the white leaves of this little magazine fall like snow flakes, we realize their beauty as little as we do the beauty of the snow flakes. It is only when we see these leaves all bound together in a book that we take notice of them. There is, moreover, a world of Humor in them, and the children will extract it all. Sit ye by, in the corner, observing but unobserved, and see the children go through it.

Bishop Robertson, of Missouri, has just issued an address delivered before the Missouri Historical Society, on the Uses of such Society in relation to Local Historical Interests. He gives a concise account of what has been accomplished by such Society in various States, and he pays a deserved tribute to Mr. Mansel and Mr. Drake, both being dead, yet speak.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

2000 Copies.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1883.

No. 19.

Mr. Caldecott's *Æsop* with Modern Instances:

There is nothing simpler, nor better, to give to a lady, or a gentleman, as a Christmas remembrancer, than Mr. Caldecott's *Æsop with Modern Instances*. It is unpretentious. It is inexpensive. The burden of obligation will not rest heavily on the receiver. Yet the book is exceedingly clever, and it will give real pleasure to any intelligent man or woman. The Fables of *Æsop* may well be denominated the wisdom of the ancients. The entire sum of their wisdom is not compressed into Mr. Caldecott's little book, for not more than twenty of the Fables are in it, but there is wisdom enough, and wit enough, in it, to last through the present holiday season.

Two Art Lectures will be delivered by Prof. W. T. Harris, at Amateur Dramatic Hall, Dec. 13th and 20th. They are illustrated by means of the Stereopticon. The first will present Studies on the *Last Supper*, by Da Vinci. The second will be upon the *Transfiguration*, by Raphael, the *Last Judgment*, by Michael Angelo, and some of Turner's pictures. Tickets 50 cents, for sale at 17 Westminster street.

The Lost Histories of America:

Mr. Ignatius Donnelly, whose very ingenious book *Atlantis*, published by the Harpers, has passed through many editions, will find a vigorous ally in an English book just published by W. S. Blacket. It is Researches into the Lost Histories of America. The author undertakes to show that the Zodiac is an ancient terrestrial map, on which the Atlantic Isle (Atlantis) is delineated, by which light can be thrown on the obscure histories of the mounds, and their builders, and the ancient ruined cities on the American continent. He who believes that the remote nations of Europe and Asia possessed no knowledge of the American continents, does not understand the nature and extent of the evidence. Literally thousands of years before the time when Columbus first saw the American Island, their existence must have been known. When Plato wrote of Atlantis, it was mythological, and that was four hundred years before the Christian era. Messrs. Lippincott & Co. have issued the work in connection with Trübner & Co.

The Story of Siegfried:

Siegfried was the son of Sigismund, King of the Netherlands, where he was born in one of the Castles on the banks of the Rhine. He became a great warrior, and the tales of his exploits have been preserved to us in the legends of the *Nibelungenlied*. He started out in life even before he reached the kingly seat of his father, to capture the lands of King Gunther an adjoining Monarch, and to hold the king as his vassal. He would have probably succeeded but for the adroit policy of Gernot, a veritable prime minister to King Gunther. Gernot finally brought about a marriage with Krimhild, the sister of the King, and all went along well for a while. Many and desperate were the fights they fought, and the victories they won. Finally Gunther employed Hagan, the Dane, to slay treacherously the valiant Siegfried, who, like Achilles, was vulnerable in but a single spot. This spot was in the back between the shoulder blades about the size of a linden leaf. As Siegfried stooped to drink from a brook Hagan smote him in the vulnerable spot and thus he died. Mr. Baldwin has done well to make so good a companion to his story of Roland.

The Little Schoolmaster Mark:

Mr. J. H. Shorthouse, the author of *John Inglesant*, has just issued, through the house of Macmillan, a new book. It is very small in size. Its name is *The Little Schoolmaster Mark*, and its author styles it, a Spiritual Romance, as he called his former story a Philosophical Novel. Inspired by the mysticism of Stilling. Mr. Shorthouse has constructed the character of Mark, partly on the model set forth in his autobiography. Mark is made to delight in the uppermost realms of spiritual ecstasy. Many a passage is positively eloquent, as when the Prince speaks of taking from the poor, their hope of Heaven. There must indeed be some comfort to the poor, in the belief, that in the hereafter some divinity, like the Greek Nemesis, will restore that equilibrium in human affairs which appears to be so much disturbed in this world. Happily no man can speculate in the stock of the poor in Heaven.

Here followeth the names of a few very good books for boys:

FROM POWDER MONKEY TO ADMIRAL, by W. H. Kingston. A story of naval adventure.

RANALD BANNERMAN, by George Macdonald, is one of the best of modern books for boys.

MODERN MAGIC, by Professor Hoffman, beyond comparison, the best book on the art of conjuring.

AT THE BACK OF THE NORTH WIND, by George Macdonald, has been tried and found not wanting.

ADRIFT IN THE ICE FIELDS, by Capt. Hall. These are stories of actual Arctic experience, sound and good.

TINKHAM BROTHERS' TIDE MILL, by J. T. Trowbridge, an admirable story, wherein right is might, as it ought to be.

CASTAWAY IN THE COLD, an old man's story of a young man's adventures, by Capt. Hardy, written out by Dr. Hayes.

SNUG HARBOR, by Oliver Optic. A story of the young boat builders of Lake Champlain, in Oliver Optic's best style.

THE BACKWOODS BOY AND HOW HE BECAME PRESIDENT, by Horatio Alger. It is a boy's Life of Abraham Lincoln.

STORIES OF THE SEA, by Edward Everett Hale. Told by the Sailors themselves. It is a capital book, bright and good.

GUTTA PERCHA WILLIE, by George Macdonald. One of the least known but best books of this downright honest writer.

PHIL AND HIS FRIENDS, by J. T. Trowbridge. Read the story of Brownie and the Buckboard, and you will understand how to interest the boys.

PARLOR AMUSEMENTS, by Professor Hoffman. Entertaining things which a little family can amuse themselves with evenings. There is no end of fun and frolic in it.

STORIES OF ADVENTURE, by Edward Everett Hale. Told by the adventurers themselves. If there is such a thing as healthful reading for boys, this is that kind.

THE TRAIN BOY, by Horatio Alger, Jr., is like all Mr. Alger's stories, exceedingly interesting. The Train Boy was honest, and upright and met his reward handsomely.

THE ARCTIC CRUSOE, a tale of the Polar Sea, by Percy St. John. This is an attempt to locate Robinson Crusoe and the Swiss Family Robinson in the Arctics instead of the Tropics.

STORIES FROM ENGLISH HISTORY, by Louise Creighton. The boy who reads herein the story of Perkin Warbeck, will think hereafter, when he reads about him in the histories, that he has met an old friend.

Chevalier Bayard, the Good Knight without Fear, and without Reproach:

Unique among biographies is the History of the Chevalier Bayard, by the Loyal Serviteur. Southey says of Bayard that perhaps no other person who acted so unimportant a part in the world ever acquired so wide, or so just a renown. Bayard was born in Grenoble, in France, in 1474, and was killed by a ball from an arquebuse, in the retreat from Robecq, in 1524. One of his archers in 1527 printed this history, anonymously, using the pseudonyme, *Le Loyal Serviteur*, now generally acknowledged to be Jacques de Mailles. The use of the word loyal in this connection leads to the reflection that in Bayard's time the term patriotic had not found its way into the dictionaries. Not long before this, Philip de Commines had transferred his allegiance from Charles the Bold, to his enemy, Louis the Eleventh, in consideration for so much money paid to him by the latter Prince. All the details concerning which, de Commines himself relates with perfect *sang froid*. But Bayard would fight under no other flag than that of his Prince. He was a brave and loyal gentleman, the purest man of his time. He was the greyhound, in assault, the wild boar, in defence, the wolf, in retreat. And it was the irony of fate, that having spent his life in jousts and tournaments with the mace, the sword, and the lance, he should at last fall by a musket ball, a weapon just then coming into use, and looked upon by him as being beneath the character of a gentleman to use. A new and beautifully illustrated edition of this most interesting book has recently been issued in England.

Two Kisses, A Complex Love Story:

The name Mr. Hawley Smart gives to his new love story, just published by the Petersons, of Philadelphia, is *Two Kisses*. The ingredients are Cicely Hemworth, a young and attractive widow, poor but extravagant; Mrs. Paynter, an incorrigible flirt, against whom Heaven defend us; and Bessie Stanbury. Now Bessie was in some respects the most desirable woman in the story. She was bright in her wit, and charming in her deportment. Her only drawback, and to some, even that would not be a serious objection, was her immense riches. But Bessie had to make pretty lively use of the riches which a kindly fortune gave her, to keep even with the agreeable Mrs. Paynter. Bessie was as honest, as she was pure and simple-minded. While Mrs. Paynter cannot be considered entirely guileless. It was another illustration of the axiom, Knowledge is Power. But Bessie came out all right in the end. She found in Charlie Detmold an admirable husband, and she made a most amiable wife. He who begins this story will stick to it to the end.

Here followeth the names of a few very good books for girls:

MISS YONGE'S BOOK OF GOLDEN DEEDS, of all times and all lands.

THE WATER BABES, a Fairy tale for a Land Baby, by Charles Kingsley.

THE HEROES, or Greek Fairy Tales for my children, by Charles Kingsley.

A ROUND DOZEN. A book of thirteen excellent stories, by Susan Coolidge.

TWO LITTLE WAIFS, by Mrs. Molesworth. One of Macmillan's best juvenile books.

WOODLEIGH STORIES, by H. C. Adams. These are Tales for Sunday readings.

A LOVING SISTER, a story for big girls, by Mrs. W. J. Hays. A pretty English story.

MISS ALCOTT'S Little Women, and Little Men, Eight Cousins, and Old Fashioned Girl.

NOT MY WAY, or good out of evil, by T. M. Browne. An excellent English book for young ladies.

A DOMESTIC HEROINE. A story for girls, by Mrs. W. J. Hays. This is a first rate English story.

CASSELL'S INDOOR AMUSEMENTS, Card Games and Fireside Fun. Just the thing for winter nights.

FIRE LIGHT STORIES, by Louise Chandler Moulton. A little collection of the author's best new stories.

MISS DEWBERRY'S SCHOLARS, and what they did, by Margaret Sangster, is an excellent writer of books for girls.

DONALD AND DOROTHY, a new book by Mary Mapes Dodge. As good a book as Hans Brinker,—that's praise enough.

MILLY, OR THE HIDDEN CROSS, by Ellen Guernsey, has been years before the public, and its excellence is well established. *

GRACE DARLING, The Heroine of the Farne Isles, by Eva Hope. She, with her aged father, rescued nine shipwrecked people.

MISS MCLOCK'S FAIRY BOOK. The best popular Fairy stories, selected and rendered anew. A really charming book.

THE LIFE OF QUEEN VICTORIA, by Grace Greenwood. The best Queen, the world has seen, written specially for young ladies.

THE FALCON FAMILY, or Meta and Willy, by H. C. Adams. He is the author of the Sacred Allegories, Shadow of the Cross, etc.

Traveller's Tales:

Ever since the days of old John Mandeville, who astonished Englishmen very much by telling them that in foreign parts wool grew upon trees, books of travel have been popular reading. This species of book makes a satisfactory gift for gentlemen. Mr. Stanley's *Through the Dark Continent*, is as marvellous a story as old Sir John ever wrote. Miss Bird's *Japan*, her *Life in the Rocky Mountains*, and her *Sandwich Islands*, are all excellent. Mr. Lathrop's *Spanish Vistas*, takes us, in beautiful ways, through unfrequented countries. Mr. Williams' *Middle Kingdom*, well read, will make one profoundly wise concerning China. Mr. DuChailier's *Land of the Midnight Sun* is a capital description of Norway and the people thereof. Mrs. Lambert's *Voyage of the Wanderer* is the story of a family marine picnic. She took a two-thurs trip round the world.

Will Carleton's Ballads:

It is doubtless true that no writer of Ballads is nearer the hearts of the American people than Will Carleton. From the day when he published his ballad, *Betsey and I* are out, to this, he has been very popular. This is due, probably, more to the essential truths, which lie at the base of his ballads, than to the spirit of poetry by which they are supposed to be pervaded. Form of expression will never give permanence to poetic fancies. Those things only are permanent wherein the poet has drawn heavily upon nature. Then will he live. It is because there lies a moral which is true to nature in Will Carleton's Ballads that they live. Three collections of them are now published by the Harpers, *The Farm Ballads*, *The Farm Legends*, *The Farm Festivals*. Their very names indicate that the line of thought of their writer was near to the home life of the common people.

A Day in a Child's Life:

The most charming series of Pictures illustrative of Child Life ever published, was recently published at Paris. Its name is *Une Journée d'enfant*, or a Day in a Child's Life. The artist author is Adrien Marie. The plates are divided into periods, thus—the *Reveil* or awakening; *Bonjour Maman*, when baby kisses mother; *Le Lever*, or getting up; *La Première Toilette*, or wash up for breakfast; *Le Premier Dejeuner*, or early breakfast. Then follows the play with the Kittens, *Le Bain*, or the Bath; *Le Repos*, or the Nap; *La Lecture*, or the reading lesson; *Le Dessin*, or the drawing lesson; *Le Deuxième Toilette*, or dressing to go out. Then comes the promenade, the lunch, and all that enters into the happy day of a life in childhood. Those who delight in pictures of lovely children, and who, indeed, does not, will be charmed with this beautiful folio.

Here followeth the names of a few very good books for young children:

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDER LAND, by Lewis Carroll, a charming book for children.

CHATTERBOX JUNIOR. Filled with wood cut pictures, and a colored frontispiece. Stories all new.

FRED BROWN'S DEBT, by Joanna Mathews, small quarto, beautifully illustrated. Excellent for young boys.

EVERY GIRL'S ANNUAL, by Alice Leith, with wood cuts, and beautifully colored plates. Every story new.

HAZELNUT AND HER BROTHERS, by Ellen Haile, small quarto, beautifully illustrated. Excellent for young girls.

HARRY BRADFORD'S CRUSADE, by Joanna Mathews, small quarto, beautifully illustrated. Excellent for young boys.

ABROAD, by Thomas Crane and Ellen Houghton, beautifully colored. Visits to Boulogne, Rouen, Caen, Paris, and back to London.

AT HOME, by J. G. Sowerby and Thomas Crane, beautifully colored. It pictures the home life of English children.

HOUSEHOLD STORIES, from the collection of the Brothers Grimm, with beautiful wood cuts from drawings by Walter Crane.

CHILDREN BUSY, CHILDREN GLAD, CHILDREN NAUGHTY, CHILDREN SAD, with drawings beautifully colored, by T. Pym.

LONDON TOWN, by Thomas Crane and Ellen Houghton, beautifully colored. Capital pictures of familiar things in the great city.

THREE BROWN BOYS, and other happy children, by Ellen Haile, small quarto, beautifully illustrated. Excellent for young boys.

HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE, the new volume, thousands of beautiful engravings, full of fun, and humor, admirable for every body.

JACK O'LANTEIN, and other Rhymes, by Eleanor W. Talbot, beautifully colored. The work of a Providence lady. Excellent for children.

THE MOTHER GOOSE GOSLINS, by Eleanor W. Talbot, beautifully colored. The author is a Providence lady. A capitally good book for children.

PICTURESQUE JOURNEYS IN AMERICA, by the Junior United Tourist Club, beautiful wood cut pictures of scenery, principally in the Yosemite Valley, or in the Yellowstone Park.

LITTLE ANN, and other Poems, by Jane Taylor, with beautiful colored illustrations by Kate Greenaway. An exquisite little book for men or women or very little children.

Herrick's Hesperides and Noble Numbers:

An elegant quarto volume, indeed, is the Poems of Robert Herrick, published by the Harpers, with chaste designs by Edwin Abbey. Herrick's *Hesperides and Noble Numbers* was one of the most prized among the superb publications of the late William Pickering. In the present edition a selection has been made, first, with a view to popular reading, and secondly, as to their capacity for illustration. The book is really of a very high character. To our shame be it said, that few indeed know the exquisite beauty of the poetry of Herrick. Hereafter there will be no excuse for us, for this beautiful volume brings it afresh into all our libraries.

The Highways and Byways of New England:

The *London Times*, in speaking of Mr. Hamilton Gibson, describes him as one who possesses a rare gift of feeling for the exquisitely graceful forms of plant life, united to the fine touch of an expert draughtsman. In his *Highways and Byways of New England*, this description of his fine powers is well exemplified. Beginning his tramp in the Highway, he is led by his fancy into squirrel tracks, thence across lots, until the footsteps of primeval man appear to be the only traces of travel before him. The wildness and beauty of the landscape, as he proceeds impresses itself upon his very soul, and here, on these leaves, he copies those impressions. All his books are positively beautiful. Harpers publishes them.

The Story of Roland:

Roland was the son of Bertha, the sister of Charlemagne. He was a brave, a simple, and a bold soldier. Of immense stature, he became one of the paladins of his uncle, and in the various wars performed many feats of arms. The legends of the middle ages are filled with tales of his prowess. His fame has been celebrated in the verses of Boiardo and of Ariosto, two of the great poets of Italy, under the name Orlando. At Fronsac, an old town in the Gironde, Roland slew in single combat the saracen giant Angoulartie. Finally at Roncesvalles, the great paladin fell into an ambuscade, and was, together with the flower of French chivalry, slain. A. D. 778. Mr. Baldwin has done well to familiarize the story for young people.

Memories of a New England Year:

Mr. Hamilton Gibson's *Pastoral Days* is one of the most beautiful, as well as most sensible, gift books yet issued from the American Press. It is both a triumph of art, and an essay descriptive of nature, filled with the finest sentiments. Its Sub-title further describes it, *Memories of a New England Year*. In other, and plainer words, the Artist Author spent a spring, a summer, an autumn, and a winter in the country, and with pen and pencils sets forth the beautiful birds, and flowers, and ferns, and shrubs, and fruits, and frosts which surrounded him. Harper and Brothers publish it.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY.
Price 50 cts. per annum.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1883.

18000 COPIES.
(No. 20.)

The Autobiography of Dr. Dewey:

The BOOK NOTES will attempt no synopsis of this excellent and most interesting book. Nothing short of reading the entire volume will satisfy any one at all interested in it. It consists, besides the autobiography, of a collection of letters written at sundry times through a long life to many well known people. Dr. Dewey was a Unitarian preacher of very great celebrity. Born in 1801, he died in 1882, almost a nonagenarian. While the BOOK NOTES wishes, not in the slightest degree to forestall the pleasure which every one will here in reading this charming book, it cannot resist the opportunity of making a couple of extracts, the one a thought, the other an anecdote. And first the thought. In a letter to Dr. Bellows he says: "By the by, is it not strange that the two great literatures of antiquity, the Hebrew and Grecian, should have appeared in territories not larger than Rhode Island?" There's a world of comfort in this, for those of us who are sensitive at the sly jokes thrown at poor little Rhode Island for her diminutive size. From Palestine came the Christian religion; from Greece came Architecture, Literature and Philosophy; from Rhode Island came Freedom to man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. Now for the anecdote. In November, 1833, Dr. Dewey came to Providence to preach a sermon at the installation of the Rev. Dr. Hall as pastor of the First Baptist Church. One evening while here he attended a political meeting. It was Jackson and Van Buren against Henry Clay and John Sergeant. The meeting was in the old Town House. Politics were red hot. Mr. Simmons submitted a resolution in support of Mr. Clay, and himself and Mr. Whipple spoke in favor of it; but Dr. Dewey must tell the story. "Finding the speaking rather dull, after an hour or more we rose to leave, when a gentleman touched my arm and said - 'Stay, you will hear something worth waiting for.' We took our seats and saw John Whipple rising to speak. I was exceedingly grateful for the interruption of our purpose, for I never heard an address to a popular assembly so powerful, close, compact,

coherent, Democratic in simplicity and force, not a word misplaced, not a word too many, and fraught with that strange power over the feelings that by sadness and despondency, a state of mind I think most favorable to real eloquence. Mr. Whipple spoke of the introduction into our politics of the fatal principle of 'to the victors belong the spoils.' It had made our elections a scramble for office and our parties wrings." Mr. Whipple portrayed the consequences which we are now feeling, and powerfully urged that his story, small though it was, should do the utmost to ward them off. As he went on he carried us higher and higher until I began to consider how he was to let us down. But the skilful orator is apt to have some clinching instance or some anecdote in reserve, and Mr. Whipple's was this: "There sleep now, within the sound of my voice, the bones of a man who once stood up in the Revolutionary battles for his country. In one of them, he told me, as they stood in line of battle in front of the disciplined troops of England, Washington rode along the line. When he came before us he stopped, and looking at us steadily for a moment, said 'Your commander places great reliance on this Rhode Island regiment.' "And when I heard that," said the old soldier, "I clasped my musket to my breast and said, 'Dated 'em, let 'em come!'" Sir, the eyes of our great commander is now upon us, and he places great reliance on the descendants of that Rhode Island regiment." Messrs Roberts Brothers are the publishers.

Golden Truths and Living Thoughts:

We must thank error for truth, for certainly were there no error there could be no truth. In a little series of books published by Leach, Sturge and with a view to their usefulness in the Christmas season, and which they call the Golden Truth Series, there have been gathered golden truths from many authors. Each little book is divided into sections. Thus, one section treats of the Human Life, another of our Heavenly Home, another of the Sympathizing Friend, or other of the First Sorrow, or the Christian

Graces, and the Source of Strength. These are but specimens, the like of which there are many. Now, to illustrate these words of hope, the industrious compiler has gathered *Living Thoughts* from many writers, both men and women, poets and prose writers, and of French, German, English and American nationality. Among the latter it was a real pleasure to find our own Francis Wayland. In the section pertaining to our Source of Strength, the learned Doctor tells us in opposing the power of evil, it is by the aid of Jesus Christ alone that we conquer, and he says the believer's power to overcome his spiritual enemies is just as he learns to confide in the aid bestowed upon him by the Captain of his salvation. Who of us doubts, that were the good man still alive, his tongue would give utterance to the same truth which his pen preserved? A pretty little companion volume to this series is the *Model Prayer*, by Dr. Baldwin. It consists of a series of addresses upon the Lord's Prayer, delivered in Troy, by the aid of which the careless reader, or us of little thought, will more certainly perceive the beautiful proportions of this perfect model.

Our Boys in China:

Mr. Harry W. French, the author of *Our Boys in India*, comes with a new story similar in character. The two young American boys, Scott and Paul Clayton, on their return voyage from India, were wrecked in the China seas. The "Tigress" went down a total wreck. The boys were by a strange chance saved, upon the sea-coast of China, in which, for three months and more, they wander, sometimes in the very jaws of death, and sometimes monarchs of all they surveyed. How they acquired the art of eating with chop-sticks, and escaped starvation while becoming educated, is a fresh chapter. One of the most singular things in the book is the narrative of the Chinese process of discovering, first, whether a murder had been done, second, with what kind of instruments the deed had been committed, and third, the severity of the blows which had caused death. All this is discovered by practically roasting the body of the dead man in a pit for a couple of hours. Then the man upon whose land the body was found is imprisoned, together with all his male relatives. The reasoning is this: If the owner of the land did not kill, who did? Why of course one of his relatives. Even if they did not, they are guilty, for they should have protected the man upon their own soil. But if they did not know anything about it, even then they are guilty, for they should know what transpires at their own doors. Off with their heads, justice must be done. The book is full of curious interest, profusely illustrated and published in their best style, by Lee & Shepard.

Fringed Books:

It was a novel idea, the making of those pretty fringed books. It was the effect of evolution. The Christmas card developed into a Fringed Book. The idea originated with Lee & Shepard, and has been followed by many publishers. Lee & Shepard have published during a series of years some prettily illustrated small quartos, such as *Abide with Me*, *Home Sweet Home*, *The Breaking Waves Dashed High*, *The Rock of Ages*, *Nearer My God to Thee*, and many others equally popular,—in all fourteen different issues, all of which they now issue as Fringed Books. Among them are two which possess interest to us Rhode Islanders. The first of these is the hymn, *The Lord is My Shepherd*, by the Rev. W. C. Richards, formerly Pastor of the Brown Street Church in this City. The other is the hymn, *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*, by Ray Palmer. Mr. Palmer is a Rhode Islander, having been born in Little Compton in 1805. He is the writer of several of the finest Hymns yet written by any American. One of the most beautiful of the entire series is the ballad, *The Curfew must not ring To night*. This familiar ballad tells the story of a heroic girl, who, to save her lover, who was sentenced to execution at the ringing of the curfew, climbs to the belfry and seizing the tongue, swings with the huge bell as the deaf old sexton pulls the rope, thus preventing the ringing of the curfew, and saving her lover. Can anything be more suitable for the Christmas time, than this beautiful story, in its dainty covers of gold, with wreaths of apple blossoms, and borders of white silk fringe. The axiom of the publishers, purity of thought for the purely-minded, stands forth in every line of these pretty books.

Her Second Love:

The characters in this story are Miss Georgie Sandon, a clever girl, with whom Capt. Anstruther falls in love. Now Miss Georgie didn't care particularly for the Captain, but she rather liked the idea of being liked, and she said yes. So the Captain, who, like most lovers, placed implicit confidence in the girl he left behind him, departed for the army. No sooner was he gone, than Miss Georgie, who was, withal, rather a voluble young woman, falls in with a certain young lawyer, one James Lawrence. He was one of those very rare specimens who unite in a single individual, the qualities of a delightful lover and a perfect husband. Miss Georgie plays love with these two gentlemen. Into which enters a serious disturbing element in the person of the charming Constance Everett. It was indeed a serious time they all underwent, but in the end they were all married, which was the grand end they all desired. Petersons are its publishers, and Ashford Owen is its author.

The Bear Worshippers of Yezo :

Mr. Edward Greey, the author of the *Bear Worshippers of Yezo*, has previously published two other works of a similar nature relating to the same country—Japan. The first, *Young Americans in Japan*, was confined to the southern portion of the country. The second, *The Wonderful City of Tokio*, was confined to that city, which our grandfathers learned of as Jeddo, ourselves learned of as Yeddo, and our children learn of as Tokio. Now, Mr. Greey goes with the Jewett family, accompanied by a native friend, to the great Island Yezo, or Yesso, which forms the great northern portion of the Kingdom of Japan. This great island is inhabited by a barbarous people called Ainos. These people, of a very mild and gentle disposition, are given a very savage, even ferocious appearance. They have a most extraordinary religious ceremony called in their native tongue, *Iyomanthe*, or the worship of the Bear. In a chapter Mr. Greey gives a minute account of this strange worship. But this is not all: the book is filled with accounts of the social life of these inoffensive people, unlike anything the boys, or their fathers ever read. From these books, which are filled to overflowing with carefully engraved original pictures of men, things and scenes in this unknown land, the children of to-day can obtain a better idea of the country and the people of Japan, than their fathers by the expenditure of any amount of money could have obtained in the days when they were children. Lee & Shepard are its publishers. Not the least curious thing about the book is its symbolic cover. Every figure upon it means something, and was put there because of its meaning, all of which the book explains.

Mr. Palgrave's Golden Treasury :

In 1809, Francis Turner Palgrave published a collection of the lyrical poems of English writers. The principle of selection was to include the writings of no living writer, and to include those Songs and Lyrics only which the best judgment would pronounce the best. A quarter of a century has gone since the publication was first made. It has been republished many times, but always without change. Recently, Messrs. Lippincott & Co. have thought the time had arrived when a new edition, with some additions, might not be an unwelcome guest. So they have, under the editorship of Mr. John Foster Kirk, published such a book. Mr. Palgrave's original book was comprised in four sections. These have been retained as he left them, saving typographical corrections, and a fifth section has been added. In this new section are gathered the Songs and Lyrics of many of the best living English writers, Mr. Tennyson, Mr. Browning, Mr.

Arthur Hugh Clough, Mr. Charles Kingsley, Mrs. Browning, Mr. A. C. Swinburne, Mr. Matthew Arnold, Mr. C. G. Rossetti, Jean Ingelow, and many other writers. Three songs by writers not living when the book was first issued, have been included in this section. Two of these are by Leigh Hunt. Mr. Hunt died in August, 1859, just before the issue of Mr. Palgrave's book, probably too late for Mr. Palgrave to change his selection, otherwise he might have himself included them. This excuse will not apply to the other lyric. It is the famous sonnet, *Night and Death*, written by Blanco White, and which Coleridge so highly commended. Mr. White died in 1811, so that Mr. Palgrave must have omitted the poem by design. It is famous, not alone from its supreme excellence, but as being the only verse ever written by its author. Messrs. Lippincott & Co. have published the volume with beautiful wood-cut illustrations, and with elegant bindings, with a view to its uses at Christmas time.

The First Translation by an American of the Odes of Horace :

There comes from the headquarters of the 21st Infantry, Vancouver Barracks, Washington Territory, a new translation of the *Odes of Horace*. It was made by Henry Hubbard Pierce, adjutant of the regiment. His desire is to supply a popular rendering of these Latin lyrics, clothed in simple language, and in such familiar measure as promised best to convey their charms to the general reader. Adjutant Pierce has already published a metrical translation of the *Æneid*, which was, together with the present venture, put into print under the advice of Prof. Henry S. Frieze, who, though now hailing from the University of Michigan, is a Rhode Islander, and well known to all our classic scholars. In a letter prefixed he commends Adjutant Pierce's translation in very high terms. The book is beautifully printed by Lippincott & Co. of Philadelphia. There is no end to the curious things in literature; here comes the first American translation of the *Odes of Horace* from an army officer, stationed on the extreme verge of the far west.

The Fireside Tales of the Slaves; Nights with Uncle Remus :

Mr. Joel Chandler Harris caught a good idea when he thought of gathering the myths and legends of the old plantations, the folklore of the southern slaves. The interest taken in his first publication, the *Sayings of Uncle Remus*, induces him to come again with a much larger, and, as he now thinks, a complete collection. The difficulty is, in getting the negroes to tell the stories, or even to acknowledge that they

know them. Mr. Harris narrates a little incident which occurred near Atlanta which shows how adroitly he acquired them. He was waiting for a train. It was night. The conditions were all favorable. He began telling stories to a crowd of negroes. In a little while one after another began to tell his story, vying with each other to see which could tell the most and the best; peals of boisterous laughter were intermixed with the stories, and all was fun and frolic. Mr. Harris taxed his memory until he could reach a point where a note-book and a pencil could be brought to his assistance when he transcribed them, and here they are in the *Nights with Uncle Remus*. Osgood & Co. are its publishers. It is capital.

Mr. Trowbridge's New Story:

The Tinkham Brothers Tide Mill, by Trowbridge, is a first-rate story, of how, by sheer force of character, five Yankee boys wrought success against every kind of adverse circumstance. Mrs. Tinkham, left a widow with these five boys, cast about for something for them to do to gain a livelihood. The boys had gifts of sundry kinds, but all were mechanically inclined. So finally they bought an old Tide Mill, and set about making little wagons and such things for children. It was just then their trouble began. First, the Fish Commissioners came along and objected to the dam, which the fish could never get over; and then came along a Boat Club, with objections to the dam because the boats couldn't sail over; and so the neighbors set to work to destroy the dam. But the boys were not only legally right, but they possessed sufficient ingenuity to enable them to make fishways for fishes, and arrange the dam so that it could do their work and let the Boat Club boats sail over it also. That is where the skill and perseverance came in. They kept the dam and made friends where only enemies had been. The story is excellent. Lee & Shepard publish it.

Mr. Leader Scott's Work on the Renaissance:

Probably there is no word so recently added by usage to the English language, concerning the meaning of which there is so little accord, even among educated people, as the word *Renaissance*. It is of course French, and the French dictionaries inform us means new birth, regeneration, revival. Webster's dictionary in its main index gives as authority Fairholt, who defines it as "a style of decorative art freer than the antique but resulting therefrom, revived by Raphael in the pontificate of Leo X. (1513) as the result of exhuming certain ancient paintings." Mr. Symonds, who has, since this definition, written several volumes, makes a new definition more in accord with the books he wrote.

This definition Webster's dictionary has in its new supplementary index. He, Symonds, says "the history of the Renaissance is not the history of arts, or of sciences, or of literature, or even of nations. It is the history of the attainment of self-conscious freedom by the human spirit manifested in the European races." That is certainly perfectly clear. There need hereafter be no misunderstanding the meaning of the term. It is so pleasant to find a man who knows something and is willing to teach us, and at the same time possesses the gift of making it so clear. But if there is a lingering doubt, possibly it may be cleared up by Mr. Burckhardt's title to his most learned work, the *Civilization of the Period of the Renaissance*. All this is only preliminary to calling attention to a new book by Mr. Leader Scott. He calls it *The Renaissance of Art in Italy*. The period covered by this history is four centuries, 1200-1600. This period Mr. Scott divides into four sections of a century each. He prefaces each section with what he styles the literary bias of the time, and then follows with sculpture, painting, architecture, printing, metal work, mosaic, and in fact all decorative or sumptuary art. This history Mr. Scott has profusely illustrated with well executed wood cuts, interspersed here and there in the text. The volume is a quarto, of beauty and utility.

The New Flaxie Frizzle:

Among the favorite writers for very young children, no one has been more popular than Sophie May. She wrote the *Prudie Books* and the *Dottie Dimple Stories*, and the *Little Prudie Flyaway Stories*, and now the *Flaxie Frizzles*. Flaxie Frizzle is the nickname of a little nine-year-old girl, whose real name is supposed to be Mary Gray. Miss Flaxie had a friend, Miss Katharine Garland, who had reached the mature age of three years, and whose nickname was Kittylene. These two had friends,—thus, Blanche Jones, Fannie Townsend, Preston Jones, and last though not least, the dog Rover. This book tells the simple story of the fun, the frolics, the trials and the tribulations of this coterie of bright children. After all, it is only a parody on the doings of those born at an earlier date. Lee & Shepard are the publishers of Sophie May's books.

Mr. James Bryce, M. P., will deliver an address in Manning Hall, Brown University, on Monday evening, December 17th, at 8 o'clock. His subject generally stated will be *The House of Commons; the process of election thereto, and its relation to the people of England*. Price of admission 50 cents. Tickets absolutely limited to 250. To be had at 17 Westminster street. To the highest attainment of profound scholarship Mr. Bryce adds the gifts and graces of oratory.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY.
Price 50 cts. per annum.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1883.

{ 2000 COPIES.
(No. 21.)

Roman Life in the Days of Cicero:

Mr. Alfred Church, who has for several years published a volume annually on some popular classical subject, has for this year's volume selected *Roman Life in the Days of Cicero*. There is probably not more than one or two characters of antiquity who have attracted more attention from the learned world than Cicero. This book does not, however, pretend to be a life of that orator, but it makes him the central figure around which Mr. Church has grouped various sketches of men, and of the manners of the time, practically the first century B. C. The author apologizes for trespassing upon the domain of history, which, in consideration of his subject, seems an extraordinary apology. In acknowledging his obligations he says he has made frequent use of Trollope's *Life of Cicero*, a work as he says "full of sound sense, though curiously deficient in scholarship." Had Mr. Trollope been living that sentence would hardly have been written.

The Raising of the Pearl:

Raising of the "Pearl" is another of those excellent books for young boys, of which Mr. James Otis is the author. Those heretofore published are *Toby Tyler*, *Mr. Stubbs' Brother* and *Tim and Tip*—all published by the Harpers. The "Pearl" was a pretty little steamer-yacht which had by some catastrophe been sunk in the Bay of Tampa, in Florida. The first portion of the story relates to the raising of the vessel and getting her ready for service. The latter portion tells how the boy crew, for they were boys whose fathers had sent them out on a sort of exploring expedition to the Florida coast, occupied their time in gathering specimens of birds, animals and fishes, and in fact studying natural history. They sailed on that vast island-studded lake, the Everglades, which a learned naturalist describes as seven parallel lines of hummocks, each of which have formed in time the Florida reefs. After they were reefs they became keys and then the main land. The book is well written, most interesting, and at the same time the boys can learn something as they read it.

Hopkins's Hand-Book of the Earth:

A little book of suggestions is that by Louisa P. Hopkins, called, *Hand-Book of the Earth*. First it speaks of the earth as one among the stars, and as being for a short period the residence of man, and how man gets therefrom his food, his clothing, his fuel, in fact how he can no more exist without direct access to, and use of, the earth than without the air. Since the lands seem to have been made for the ownership of a comparatively small portion of the human race, to whom the great body of us must pay tribute for its use, we ought to be very thankful that corporations and individuals have no prescriptive rights as yet over the air, and sell or rent it to us through pipes, payment for the same to be made in advance. In a short chapter it is related how the earth was made. This is a question which has excited within recent years considerable discussion. It seems a little difficult of solution. Other chapters relate to various phenomena, such as the winds, the waves and distances. It is a first-rate book for teachers. Lee & Shepard are its publishers.

Sound Bodies for Our Boys and Girls:

A little book written by Dr. Blakie, of New York, some two or three years since, called by him *How to Get Strong and How to Stay So*, was received at once by the public with great favor. It was so simple, and yet apparently so effective, that a great many people urged the adoption of certain exercises suggested by its author into the daily manual of the schools. These suggestions induced Dr. Blakie to prepare a new, but smaller and more technical treatise. In it are given inexpensive methods of exercise, with the purpose of developing each muscle or portion of the body. No heavy work is prescribed, but rather a regular repetition of small doses. It is surprising how rapidly a slim sapling of a fellow develops into an athlete, under such a system as Doctor Blakie's—presenting some such personal appearance as did Hercules on the morning he started for the golden apples of the Hesperides. Harpers are its publishers.

Folk-Lore of Shakespeare:

Mr. G. W. Cox defines the compound word folk-lore as "tales which formed the great body of mediæval legend, or folk-lore." Mr. Harris, when he had gathered the tales told by the negroes of the South o' nights when the moon was bright, called them the folk-lore of the slave. Webster defines the word as rural tales, legends, superstitions. He gives Trench as his authority, and says the word is of recent origin. Stormonth, the best living English lexicographer, gives the same meaning. Just now we have the Rev. T. F. Thistleton Dyer's new book, the *Folk-Lore of Shakespeare*, who, as this author thinks, was possessed of an intimate acquaintance with the folk-lore of by-gone days. Thus he gathers into chapters whatever he can find in the works of the great poet relating to fairies, witches, ghosts, demonology, birds, animals, plants, insects, reptiles, calendar customs, sports and pastimes, dances, punishments, superstitions, and many other kindred subjects. Mr. Dyer is no tyro upon this subject. He sometime since made an excellent book on British customs, and the most cursory examination of the present work will at once disclose the wealth of his learning. Harpers are its publishers.

Cyclopædias for Young Folks:

Messrs. Henry Holt & Co. have published three volumes of this general character. They were compiled by Mr. John D. Champlin, Jr., who is, by the way, one of our south county Rhode Islanders. The first of his books is a Dictionary of Common Things. The second is a Dictionary of Persons and Places, in one index. The third is a Young Folks' History of the War of the Rebellion. How many of us realize that the boy born on the day they fired on Sumpter is to-day a voter? These books are in the main excellent. The idea is certainly a good one. It is for the children to have cyclopædias of their own, planned to come within their range of enquiry and to exclude such material as good judgment would consider beyond their reach. The BOOK NOTES does not think it wise to stop children from asking questions. It does think it wise in us, to try to answer them. It educates them, and keeps our own knowledge where it is handy to have it to use. As an adjunct in this pleasant pursuit there is nothing better than these excellent books.

Frescoes by Onida:

In a good-sized twelve mo. volume this writer has published by the house of Lippincott half a dozen dramatic sketches, the first of which has given the name to the book. They are stories of the all-absorbing passion, written in the intense style for which this writer has become celebrated.

Snug Harbor, by Oliver Optic:

Captain Gildrock, who had seen some service in the navy, being possessed of some peculiar notions concerning the education of boys, determines to establish an industrial school. He selects for its site the shore of Lake Champlain and names it the Beech Hill Industrial School. It is essentially aquatic in its nature, boats and vessels being among the chief instruments of education. The boys are taught to build and navigate ships. The discipline, which is not more severe than the rougher elements, which the Captain had gathered, required, was modelled on the rules of the navy, but the Captain, who was a man of genius, knew how to govern both himself and the boys, and the result was, he turned out some capital specimens. The book is full of interest. Its tone is good. Its name is *Snug Harbor*. Its author, Oliver Optic, and Lee & Shepard are its publishers.

Allen's Short-Hand Method of Writing.

The author of this little hand-book claims that by it, one can, in a week, or at most, two weeks, acquire sufficient knowledge and practice to enable him to write three times as fast as he could do by the old systems of phonography after a three months' study. Since speed is the one grand aim of all such systems, this claim, if sound, should settle all questions regarding its use. The rules are concise and appear to be clearly stated, a considerable part of the little book being taken up with reading lessons. It seems to be a book well calculated for individual study, from which even an old stenographer might gain new ideas. Lee & Shepard publish it.

Mr. Rolfe's Edition of Shakespeare:

When Mr. Rolfe's edition of Shakespeare's *Venus and Adonis* was issued the BOOK NOTES congratulated the public that the edition was completed. Then followed Mr. Rolfe with the *Sonnets*; again the BOOK NOTES congratulated the public on the completion of the edition. Now he comes with *Titus Andronicus*. The BOOK NOTES hesitates whether to congratulate or commiserate the public. Mr. Rolfe confesses that he had at first no intention of including this play, which nobody believes was written by Shakespeare, in his edition of the works of that poet, but advice got the better of discretion and he included it. The BOOK NOTES wishes Mr. Rolfe had held to his original purpose and not been misled by advice. If all the plays which have been attributed to Shakespeare are to be included in this excellent edition its end is not yet.

Phil. and his Friends:

Philip Farlow was a bright young fellow whose father lived among the New England mountains. Things had not gone well with Phil's father, who had, by lounging about the village tavern, become hopelessly indebted to Sol Bass, the keeper thereof. To extinguish the debt, Phil's father, without the knowledge or consent of Phil, bound him to the tavern-keeper during his minority. This was a terrible disaster to the intelligent, honest, clear-headed boy, who remonstrated with his father at the great wrong done him, but without avail. So there was nothing to do but just what Phil did. He went to work for Sol Bass. He worked faithfully and well until the tavern-keeper concluded to make a bar-tender of him. Against this business Phil's whole moral nature rebelled, and he refused outright to stay with the tavern-keeper any longer. Just at this decisive time the village doctor came to the rescue. Phil found many friends, just as moral worth always will in the end, and became an upright and useful citizen whom every boy might emulate. The book is one of Mr. Trowbridge's best and there is nothing better for boys. Lee & Shepard are its publishers.

Santa Claus' Land:

This little book is perennial. It consists of eight stories by Amanda M. Douglass. They are all concerning Christmas time, and the elves, the brownies, the kelpies and the gnomes figure throughout the stories as the helpers and assistants of Santa Claus in filling the stockings hanging by the fireplace.

True Tales for My Grandsons:

Sir Samuel W. Baker has been a very extensive traveller. His books upon Africa had a very wide circulation, and although published at least fifteen years since, are yet in demand. He has just published a book for boys, or young men, which he calls *True Stories for My Grandsons*. It comprises some half dozen stories taken from among his own adventures in many countries. Several of these stories are practically hunting adventures in pursuit of tigers and elephants. One relates to his pursuit of whales. The chapters on dogs are very entertaining. But whatever else these stories may be, they are all true—stories of actual occurrences. The heroes of these tales are not the blustering heroes of the stage, but they are rather men who possess those combinations of honor, courage and gentleness which make the character of an English gentleman.

A capital book of Christmas stories is that by Edward Everett Hale. Its name is *Christmas in a Palace*.

Duncker's New History of Greece:

Professor Max Duncker, whose *History of Antiquity* recently completed in the English translation, has undertaken a new *History of Greece*. It will cover the remotest period of antiquity and come down to the end of the Persian War, B. C. 250. The first volume has just reached this country. It chronicles among its most recent facts the death of Hesiod, probably B. C. 850. The second and concluding volume will cover the remaining six centuries. While the learned author gives their full value to all recent discoveries, he still maintains that in regard to the facts of the ancient history of the Greeks, on many points, we must be content with hypotheses and probability.

Schliemann's New Book Troja:

TROJA; results of the latest researches and discoveries on the site of Homer's Troy and in the Heroic Tumuli and other sites, made in the year 1882, and a narrative of a journey in the Troad in 1881. Thus runs the title to Dr. Henry Schliemann's new book which has just reached this country. This superb book may be considered as the completion and supplement to his former book, *Ilios*. Professor Sayce, who contributes a preface, claims for these discoveries the highest scientific value. Deep down below the second city the excavator found a third city, which, by its pottery and stone relics, he declares to have been founded by people of Thracian descent. This, if true, proves the truth of a statement by Strabo, who said that Phrygians had once crossed Mysia out of Thraké and taken possession of the site of Troy. Thus year by year the history of ancient people and countries is being reconstructed upon new, and let us hope, surer, foundations, and the veracity of historians, which has been unable to withstand the attacks of modern criticism, is being reestablished by the irresistible logic of things carved or built of rocks and stones.

Francis Wayland published a larger number of pamphlets and books than any other person in Rhode Island. Aside from articles in papers or Magazines, his publications will doubtless reach 65. This not counting succeeding editions, unless much changed. Of all these publications, the one on "The Limitations of Human Responsibility," published in 1838, unquestionably ranks first. Following Dr. Wayland in numerical rank comes the Reverend Thomas Williams. The publications of Mr. Williams will probably number about 48 mostly pamphlets. In these estimates accuracy is only approximated.

Mr. Stirling, who wrote the *Cloister Life* of Charles V., and by which he achieved a very high position as an historical scholar, labored for many years in the preparation of a work on *Don John of Austria*. It is composed of passages from the history of the sixteenth century between the years 1547-1578. It relates among other matters to the history of the Morisco Rebellion in Spain, in 1569; the wars between the Christian naval powers and the Turks, in 1570; the War of the Holy League, 1573; the Journey of Don John through the Netherlands, in 1577, and the affairs of that country. It is a work of the profoundest research, illustrated and published as only those wrapped in cloth of gold can publish. It will please the scholar and gratify the nicest perception of the bibliomaniac. It is superb. Mr. Stirling-Maxwell died before its issue, but it is a reproduction of an edition which he saw through the press.

The admirable *History of Art in Chaldaea and Assyria*, by *Pervot and Chipiez*, two of the most accomplished French scholars, has just been issued in England, translated by Walter Armstrong. It is by far the best treatise in the English languages on this subject, fully abreast with the most recent discoveries, and illustrated with nearly five hundred engravings, some of which are of great beauty and value, on a subject which engrosses the attention of some of the most cultivated people in the world.

The Philosophical works of the late Professor James Ferrier have just been completed by the publication of the *Lectures on the Greek Philosophy*. The volume likewise includes a chapter on Berkeley, and several miscellaneous lectures delivered at St. Andrews' University between the years 1847-1861. There is also a biography of Hegel and of Schelling.

The Oriental Church, by P. C. Mozoomdar, if looked at in no other light than as a specimen of English composition, by an Asiatic, is a perfect wonder. But it is far more than that. It is a work of the very highest spiritual character, by a man whose aspirations have been, not to speculate on Christ, but to be what Jesus tells us all to be.

Principal John Tulloch of the University of St. Andrews and one of Her Majesty's chaplains for Scotland, published some time since a volume on *Luther and Other Leaders of the Reformation*. It has passed through three editions in England, thus establishing its excellence.

Mr. Lewis Morris, who, some three years or more ago, wrote the *Epic of Hades*, a poem famous in both hemispheres, has just issued a new volume of miscellaneous poems under the title *Songs Unsung*. It has not been reprinted in this country.

Here followeth the names of a few Good Books for Boys and Girls:

WOODS' ILLUSTRATED NATURAL HISTORY for Young People comprises pretty full accounts of birds and animals followed by short descriptions of insects. The anecdotes are mainly new ones.

THE CRUISE OF THE SNOW BIRD is a story of Arctic adventure by an English gentleman, Gordon Stables, a surgeon in the Royal Navy.

HANS BRINKER, or the Silver Skates, by Mary Mapes Dodge, is an admirable story of domestic life in Holland.

MISS YONGE'S LANCES OF LYNWOOD, a story of the days of chivalry in England. Froissart and the life of Bertrand du Guesclin have been laid under contribution.

GILBERT'S SHADOW, or the Magic Beads, is by the Hon. Mrs. Greene who has written some excellent books for young people.

BOY'S FROISSART, chronicles of adventure, battle and custom in England, France and Spain.

BOY'S PERCY, being old ballads of war, adventure and love, from the *Reliques*.

BOY'S KING ARTHUR and his Knights of the Round Table.

BOY'S LIFE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, or how a young rail-splitter became President.

GIRL'S LIFE OF QUEEN VICTORIA, the girlhood and womanhood of the best queen in the world.

WOODLEIGH STORIES, tales for Sunday reading, by H. C. Adams.

GUERNSEY LILY, or how the fend was healed, a story of the Jersey Islands.

YOUNG FOLKS' HISTORY OF AMERICA, an excellent book not calculated to damage either boys or girls.

HARRY BRADFORD'S CRUSADE, BESSIE BRADFORD'S SECRET, FRED BRADFORD'S DEBT, all by Joanna Mathews, a woman whose books have been incorporated into the Sunday school publications of every denomination.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES in words of one syllable and filled with pictures.

TALES FOR MY GRANDSONS, by Sir Samuel Baker, to make a good boy a gentleman.

COMIC INSECTS, a most curious book for young, written by Reid and illustrated by Berry.

THE MINSTRELS, a picture show-book for the youngest children.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY. {
Price 50 cts. per annum. }

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1884.

{ 2000 COPIES.
(No. 23.) }

The Occult World:

This little book, by Mr. A. P. Sinnett, has recently reached the BOOK NOTES from London. Mr. Sinnett is in the British Civil Service in India, and he has here given us a book on certain phases of Spiritualism, which, as far transcend Shepherd Tom's experiences, as Shepherd Tom's transcend the ordinary occurrences of every day life. Mr. Sinnett relates receiving a written letter from a friend a thousand miles at sea—a bit of work which a spirit or something of the sort did for him. The way of it was this, Sinnett's friend had sailed for England. He was a thousand miles at sea; something had been forgotten; instructions from the absent one were needed, a spirit visited the ship, a letter was written by the passenger, and dropped immediately into the little group in the heart of India. That certainly is business. But it is as nothing to another little thing they did. It was as if a spirit in New Orleans, had smashed a plaster cast in Chicago and removed a respectably sized piece instantaneously to New York. It rather strains the credulity of the BOOK NOTES, but it must be true, nevertheless. But how it knocks the romance out of the Arabian Nights. The fellow who removed that plaster must have been the architect who built Aladdin's Palace—or the devil.

A New Monograph on the Geology of Rhode Island:

Mr. T. Nelson Dale has recently made a Contribution to the Geology of Rhode Island. Mr. Dale knowing that the Island of Aquidneck has been the object of much study on the part of geologists, and believing that the stratigraphy of the southeastern end of the island had been neglected and that existing maps were inaccurate, resolved to supply these defects. With this end in view, he made many excursions around Easton's Point, Sachuest Beach, and Neck, Paradise, and Hanging Rock, and along the shore as far north as the Glen. His observations are now published with three exceedingly well engraved maps of the locality. A Bibliography of the subject gives further value to the pamphlet.

The Cruise of the "Alert:"

The "Alert" is a British sloop-of-war, the same ship which, under Sir George Nares, in 1875, reached the nearest point to the north pole yet reached by man. Her second cruise, the one here referred to, was in southern latitudes. The object of the Lords of the Admiralty in sending her out was, first to explore the inner passages which lead northward, from the point where the Straits of Magellan turns in that direction—for the purpose of finding safer navigation for British merchantmen. The distance from port Tamar to the Gulf of Penas is not far from 500 miles. If a sheltered way could be found, it would shorten the voyage of a ship to any point on the west coast of South America by not less than a thousand, and possibly fifteen hundred miles, and render it far less tempestuous and dangerous. To find this way was the first object of the "Alert." Dr. Coppinger, whose account of the voyage we are now describing, was the medical officer of the ship. Singularly enough he had been appointed to this position for two reasons: first, for his skill as a surgeon and physician; and second, for his thorough knowledge and extensive research as a naturalist. Covering partly the same ground which Darwin in the "Beagle" covered in 1826, it reminds one of Darwin's voyage at every step. It is impossible in these limited BOOK NOTES to give anything like an accurate summary of this interesting book. The most we can do is to allude to a few things. The great island Tierra del Fuego lay to the south of the ship. A large part of Coppinger's narrative relates to the natives, the fauna, the flora, and in general the natural history of this desolate land. Its name comes from the everlasting fires which the inhabitants keep burning—even in their canoes when out on the sea they keep their burning fires. This comes from their difficulty in getting fire. How they obtain fire could not be discovered. They would barter their clothing, food, children, in fact anything, save only their fire-getting apparatus. These diminutive people are the perfection of everything which we look upon as bad in human beings. Abject misery is in general their condition. They are

devoid of truth, and treacherous in their natures. They are cannibals, but for these entertainments they judiciously select only the older specimens of the community. This fact, the author thinks, accounts for the entire absence of old natives. Vessels engaged in the seal-skin trade pursue their avocations here. A seal-skin selling in the Straits for 25 shillings, brings quickly four pounds sterling in London, and by the time it gets to New York, a hundred dollars. A few moments might be profitably spent in considering its intrinsic worth. The Stormy Petrel humbug is thoroughly and scientifically exploded. This bird hovers about ships in calm weather to get the oil thrown overboard, just as other birds do. They do this because when the sea is smooth the food, on which they rely, sinks below the surface, and is in rough water thrown up again. There is much careful study of the phosphorescence of the sea—the flight of the albatross, and a great many such things. A walk through a tropical forest to witness a real, live glacier, seems rather Jules Verneish, but after the minute, scientific account, we shall be obliged to believe it. In fact, we have long since come to the conclusion, to place implicit confidence in traveller's tales. He is never safe who disbelieves them. The book is beautifully illustrated and printed, and in an interesting way adds materially to our stock of knowledge.

The Gates Wide Open:

This book, first published in 1858, was republished in 1862, when Miss Phelps first published her "Gates Ajar." Its title, which at first was the *Future Life or Scenes in the Other World*, was then changed to its present one, the *Gates Wide Open*. A new edition has been called for and Lee & Shepard have again issued it. The author, Mr. George Wood, sets forth in his preface the purpose of his book, which is to present his idea of the pursuits and pleasures of those who enter heaven. Like all such speculations, for such they must ever be, his theory is founded on the present life, and the physical pursuits connected therewith. He quotes the words of Jeremy Taylor, of Socrates, and others concerning the hereafter, and declares his own opinion that heaven is the true happiness of the human soul, presenting the attractions of every excellence and the fruition of every desire. Socrates tells us his belief that no evil can befall a good man, whether he lives, or whether he be dead, which must indeed be true. Moreover, again he tells us that for an interview with Homer or Hesiod, with Orpheus or Musaeus, or with Achilles himself, he would be willing to die often. All this, however, takes not away our fears of death. Philosophy is a first rate remedy for those ills which are past, or for those which are to come, but for those present it affords but little help.

A Bright Scottish Clergyman's Opinion of Providence:

Some three years and more since the Rev. Mr. Hemperly, the Swedenborgian pastor, then of this city, arranged an exchange with a Scottish clergyman, the Rev. John Faulkner Potts, of Glasgow. This gentleman came to Providence and served the church some four months. Such a visit gave him an excellent opportunity of observing a phase of American life which few foreigners in so short a time can hope to have. He wrote some letters to a newspaper at home giving the result of his observations. These have been gathered into a volume, published, and copies have reached this country. It is without an exception the cleverest, the truest, and the best account of Providence and the home-life of people here which any foreigner has ever written. He was delighted with his visit and of course his work is highly complimentary to our people. He went among the workshops and the schools and he describes them admirably. Ye who live in stolid ignorance of the natural beauty of things around you, read this glowing book and see how they strike a foreigner. The author's style is simple and direct, he is perfectly frank, he clearly says what he honestly thinks, and which everybody here knows to be true. That's why the BOOK NOTES likes it. Some of the things he talks about are very laughable. Such as the way we pronounce *yes*. He says we pronounce it as though it was spelled *ea-r* but that we leave the *r* off in pronouncing. How often we do. But there's no use in going into particulars, the whole book is admirable.

The New Life of Lord Lyndhurst:

A short time before his death Lord Lyndhurst destroyed everything among his private papers which he thought would be required in the preparation of a memoir. He did this for the purpose of preventing the publication of any memoir. He did not succeed in his purpose, for Lord Campbell in his *Lives of the Chancellors* has included him. This life by Campbell gave such dissatisfaction to Lyndhurst's family that they began to cast about for materials out of which a new, and authentic life could be constructed. A correspondence was opened up with the correspondents of Lord Lyndhurst which resulted in the obtaining of great numbers of letters, and other valuable materials, and from these Sir Theodore Martin has written the present life. Lord Lyndhurst was the son of Copley the American artist. He was born in Boston in 1772. He was a man of great learning, eloquent in speech, and of great intellectual power.

What Shall We Do With Our Daughters:

This book comprises a series of letters by Mary A. Livermore. Their subjects are: 1st, the changed conditions of woman's life; 2nd, Physical Education; 3d, Higher Education; 4th, Need of Practical Training; 5th, Industrial and Technical Training; 6th, Moral and Religious Training; 7th, Superfluous Women. This last subject occupies nearly one-half the book and is subdivided into many sections. Superfluous women! that's a frightful phrase, which no man could, nor any woman should, have written. The last and most perfect of the works of the Creator, was woman. Is she here by accident, or by design? Under no condition are we to believe that the Creator works by accident, therefore she must be here in such numbers by design. Is Mrs. Livermore here by accident, and is she superfluous? It is simply preposterous, everybody here, is here for some wise purpose. There's a deal of humbug in the handling of this question, doubtless there is something out of joint, but the trouble is not in a superfluity of women. The little book is neatly published by Lee & Shepard.

The Bread Winners:

This famous story, which has been running through the pages of the *Century*, is by an anonymous writer. Its authorship has been attributed to many writers but it has not as yet been absolutely fixed upon any one. It is now complete and has been published in a neat volume by the Harpers. It is claimed by many excellent readers that this is the novel of the year. It is well written, and is indeed a powerful story. The way in which the attention of the reader is aroused and riveted upon Maud Matchin, as Offitt plots her destruction, and she is half tempted to elope, is adroit. The terrible assault planned by Offitt upon Farnham, and the subsequent murder of Offitt by Sam Sweeney is excellently dramatic, well told, and intensely interesting. It is indeed a story of strikes with a vengeance.

MESSRS. A. C. ARMSTRONG & SON announce for immediate publication an important work on Japan by Prof. J. J. Rein, of Marburg, Prussia. The author was sent out by the Prussian government to make these investigations. He resided two years in the country, and has given an excellent account of the history, civilization and social condition of the Japanese, and from careful personal observation has described the physical features of the country. Maps, wood-cuts, lithographs and photographs abound in the volume. A review in *Nature* describes the work as being the best on the subject which has been published in England in ten years.

The Study of Birds and Their Nests:

Probably there are very few people in Rhode Island aware that there is published in Pawtucket, in this State, a monthly periodical devoted entirely to the study of Ornithology. It is true nevertheless. The scientific little monthly enters with the January number upon its ninth volume. Its title is the *Ornithologist and Oölogist*. It is edited and published by Frank E. Webster, and its price is only a dollar a year. The current number has original articles on the Wood Duck, the Yellow-rump Warbler, the Sandhill Crane, the Migration in the Mississippi Valley, and a great many other subjects. Wherever illustrations could help the understanding of an article they are given. Thus, with the Sandhill Crane and her egg, and the Wood Duck, which are both illustrated—any one interested in the study of Birds, their Nests, and their Eggs, can gain much help from this unpretending little journal.

The Fair Enchantress:

The *Fair Enchantress*, by Miss M. C. Keller, is among the latest issues of society novels by Peterson & Brothers. The heroine of the story, Nora Evans, whose parents both became victims of an assassin, was left by them penniless, and with a baby sister as a further encumbrance. A homeless wanderer, she fell asleep one night in a cemetery, in which extraordinary places she was found by Eric Kingsley, who happily was a millionaire. He cared for them both until the baby was poisoned by a jealous woman, though why she was jealous of the baby does not appear. But at all events it was a great convenience to all parties to be rid of the child. Thus left free, Nora Evans played havoc with men's hearts, beginning with her wealthy finder. Those who wish to know with what drugs, what charms, what conjuration, and what mighty magic, she did these things must read the story.

The Boys of "Thirty-Five:"

As the title runs, this is a story of a seaport town,—but it is not a story at all,—it is a collection of stories. It was written by Mr. Edward H. Elwell, editor of the *Portland Transcript*, and it is descriptive of the scenes and events in his boyhood and school-days in that city. The characters are all real ones there, but to us they are unknown—this is, however, no loss to us. *Oliver Twist* was not personally known to us, yet we became terribly interested in him—and so we have in this capital book. It is the school-boy adventures of every one of us, and it is put as interesting to us as our own autobiography could be, and far more so to other people. It is brimful of fun, humor and anecdote, and is altogether the best story of school-boy life in New England thirty or forty or fifty years ago, which has yet been written. If you would revisit the scenes of your boyhood, read this book for you were then, just as the author was. Lee & Shepard are its publishers.

The New Memoir of Bulwer, Lord Lytton:

The Earl of Lytton (Owen Meredith), the son of Edward Bulwer, later, Lord Lytton, has just ready the Life of his Father. At some period of his life Bulwer wrote a portion of an autobiography. This manuscript, together with a great many others, he left, with explicit instructions that his life, if written at all, must be written by his son, and in that case the autobiography might be used at discretion. It has been so used. The title is indicative of the latitude used by the author. His book is called *Life, Letters and Literary Remains*. It was selected for the purpose of introducing such extracts from published and unpublished material as he thought would best illustrate his father's works by his life, and his life by his works. The first volume (for the work is in three volumes) comprises the autobiography, the second and third will comprise the biography. Into the latter are woven many scraps, or shreds of Bulwer's composition, now for the first time published, and the story of the growth and publication of many of his famous works now for the first time told. The key to the characters in Paul Clifford is therein printed. *Old Bags* was Lord Eldon. *Long Ned* was Lord Ellenborough. *Fighting Attie* was the Duke of Wellington. *Bachelor Bill* was the Duke of Devonshire, who took great delight in the caricature. *Gentleman George* was the king himself. *Huskinson* was there, as was Sir James Scarlett and many more distinguished political or legal gentlemen. The story of Bulwer's courtship and marriage, in opposition to the wishes of his mother, his father being dead, is told at length and is very interesting—scarcely less so is that of Bulwer's father, the grandfather of Owen Meredith, who, when the lady of his choice refused him, politely asked of her, that since he was of noble descent, not old, pecuniarily independent, possessed of landed estate, and altogether a good looking gentleman, why she refused him. She not being able to give any very sound objections to him, concluded to reconsider—which reconsideration resulted in accepting him. Faint heart never won, etc. Bulwer was one of the greatest English novelists, he was a true poet, he was a leading member of Parliament, his speeches not being unknown to the present generation. Thus the story of his life must interest very large classes of readers. To meet every demand the Harpers have published two editions, one in their Franklin Squares and the other in substantial library volumes.

DIANE CORYVAL, the pretty name of the heroine, gives the title to a No Name novel, a very interesting story of French domestic life, which will be published by Roberts Brothers early in January.

The Wild Tribes of the Soudan:

The present war in this barbarous country has brought forth several books in England concerning the land and its inhabitants. The newest one, the title of which forms the caption of this note, was written by F. L. James. This gentleman formed the chief of a hunting party of English gentlemen, which passed three winters in Soudan—generally occupied in the pursuit of game, which necessitated more or less travel, and which is in their book set forth. They were chiefly among the Basé, a wild and barbarous tribe, in the extreme southern portion, in fact it extended some distance into Abyssinia. It is the very country wherein the Mahdi has so recently exterminated Hicks Pasha and his entire army. The last visit of these hunters to this country was in 1881, so that their observations are quite recent. But it was as hunters of wild animals that they went, and it is their observations as hunters that are herein related.

SONGS UNSUNG, the new volume of poems by Lewis Morris, is to be republished by Roberts Brothers. The BOOK NOTES mentioned its publication in England in one of its recent numbers. Lewis Morris is the author of the *Epic of Hades*, and must not be confounded with the author of the *Earthly Paradise*, whose name was William Morris. In a very complimentary note to Lewis Morris, concerning this new collection of poems, Mr. W. E. Gladstone uses the following language:

"Some of the more important pieces make almost equal and very high demands alike on my sympathy and my admiration, and I hope you may long be enabled to cherish the enviable gift of finding utterance for truths so deep in forms of so much power and beauty."

WIND VOICES is a collection of Philip Bourke Marston's latest poems and sonnets. The author, who it will be remembered is entirely blind, ranks, according to the *London Examiner*, "alongside of Swinburne, Morris and Rossetti." Several collections of his poems have been published in England. This is, we think, the first which has been published in this country, Roberts Brothers announce it.

THE SILVERADO SQUATTERS, by Robert Louis Stevenson, is nearly ready for publication by Roberts Brothers. Two years since the author was induced to try the climate of California for a change, and in his own inestimable way he gives us his experience of squatter life.

The *Fortnightly*, the *Nineteenth Century*, and the *Contemporary*, are to be again reprinted in this country. They will be in much better form than before. Specimen pages at 17 Westminster street.

Mr. W. E. Norris, the author of *Michingony*, and several first rate novels, has just ready a new one, *Thirlby Hall*. Harpers have it in their Franklin Squares.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY. }
Price 50 cts. per annum. }

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1884.

{ 2000 COPIES.
(No. 23.) }

Floyd Grandon's Honor:

This is a new novel by Miss Amanda M. Douglas. This lady has written some of the most popular books for young ladies yet written by any American author. Floyd Grandon's Honor seems to have consisted in marrying a young girl, as his second wife, not because he cared particularly for her, but rather to accommodate her father, who was near his death, and who, beside this only child, possessed a valuable patent, and then, notwithstanding the intrigues, the hatreds, and the meannesses of his immediate family, standing manfully by her through it all, until friendship ripened into love. Gertrude was the fashionable sufferer of the family. She, as is proper in such cases, secured a professor for a husband. Madame Lepelletier, of American birth, but a French name, was the principal intriguer. She wanted to marry Floyd Grandon herself, only he wouldn't. Wilmarth was the villain, he tried to fire the mill, but was discovered by Floyd, and went to his home, and very properly left the country by an administration of prussic acid, a drug more deadly than a mad dog's tooth. Thus runs the tale. It is a well wrought story, and there's not too much of it. Lee & Shepard are its publishers.

The Old Market Regulations:

Some curious regulations in regard to the Market House in Providence were made in 1780. It was provided that meats should be weighed by scales, and not by steelyards. That fowls and such small things should be sold only by the pound, never at so much a pair. That fish might be weighed by steelyards, which must be sealed by the town officer. That oysters should not be opened after candle light. That a farmer coming into town with produce should not sell out his produce to any shopkeeper or butcher before one o'clock in the afternoon. At one o'clock the Market House was to be closed. Fines were imposed for infringements of all these regulations. In the case of a farmer selling to a shopkeeper, both parties were fined. There were many other singular provisions. One was that no truckman was permitted to ride upon his truck. These regulations were cer-

tainly whimsical enough; but there was another one made by the Town Council, in 1815, which rather exceeds them. The Beneficent Congregational Church on Broad street asked and received permission to stretch chains across the street during their hours of service. These things seem ridiculous to us now, as they were in fact ridiculous, but our own regulations are quite as absurd. For instance, a shopkeeper is fined for calling public attention to his shop with either a horn, or a bell, while a cotton mill or a machine shop can call public attention by a steam horn which can be heard ten miles. A vehicle loaded with firewood or coal, is not allowed to stand in certain streets fifteen minutes, loaded with any other commodity it can stand as long as its owner wishes. These are but specimens of which our statute books are full.

The Narragansett Historical Register:

This little periodical has nearly closed its second volume. The January number has just been issued, and is being delivered to subscribers by Mr. Arnold, its editor. This magazine is devoted to the antiquities, genealogies, and historical matters generally pertaining to Rhode Island. It has improved rapidly, until it has now come to be a very interesting and welcome visitor. The present January number has a genealogy of the Greenes, of Quiddeset, by Mr. Ray Greene Huling, now of Fitchburg; an article genealogical in character, on the Hatchinson family, of Boston neck, written by Colonel Thomas Lincoln Casey, now of Washington, D. C. A sketch of the Cole family, by James B. Peirce. Some account of the Sherman family, by the Rev. David Sherman. Sheriff Brown's Diary of a Journey to the Susquehanna in 1762. This was some years before the Rhode Islanders settled at Wyoming. Mr. Rowland G. Hazard contributes a Poem, and Mr. Fred A. Arnold, of this city, an article on the Towne Evidence of Providence Plantation, which means in plain English the original deed of the land from the Indians. The deed is for the first time accurately printed with *faint* signatures, and with it some explanatory records. This was suggested by the error in

cutting the mark of Canonicus on the stone set to his memory in the North Burial Ground. The mark cut was not the mark upon the deed. It was a blunder pure and simple. Why not say so? That Canonicus made various marks on various instruments, is no excuse. The question and the only question is, what particular mark did he make on this particular instrument? That this writer, or that one, has used marks indifferently, is no excuse. The originator of this memorial stone says he undertook to cut the mark of Canonicus on his memorial stone, which Canonicus himself had made in the deed.

Having cut something else upon the stone, he, instead of saying at once that he copied from Staples's Annals, without having looked at the original deed, undertakes to throw suspicion and doubt upon the genuineness of the document itself, by claiming that it is not the original. But that Staples's reprint is from another and different one, of which, however, there is no present knowledge. If Staples's is correct, then the city's deed is not even a copy. Until the discovery of the error no such idea had ever entered his head, nor the head of any body else.

The documents which Mr. Arnold has reproduced in connection with the deed, in his article, are most instructive. They have never before been printed. They seem to settle the question beyond the shadow of a doubt. Staples either had access to another deed, of which the city of Providence is the lawful owner, and which has since 1843 disappeared, or he blundered; which, is a matter of opinion.

The BOOK NOTES believes that he blundered. That he printed in his Annals as the original deed, a copy made in 1658. That when this copy was entered upon the records there was entered with it the circumstances of its entry. There we learn that the original deed was then in existence, and that it was in a torn and fragmentary condition. That it had been torn by accident while it was at the house of William Arnold, at Pawtuxet, and that portions of it had been lost. We learn that there were two true copies in existence. These are declared to be copies and are not confounded with the original. One of these copies was in the possession of William Harris and the other in the possession of Thomas Olney, and we learn that the *true words* were taken from these copies and entered upon the Records. It is this copy which Staples re-printed. It requires no stretch of the imagination to suppose that the torn copy, which William Arnold declares in 1658 was the original, is the same now in the City Hall. Not only was Staples in error as to the mark of Canonicus, but he was also in every other of the four marks he gives. Neither is correct. Nor was he probably correct in ascribing the copy which he gave to the handwriting of Williams. It is in another hand.

This careful article, containing nothing original by Mr. Arnold, is yet worthy of high commendation. The number of acute, alert, careful, historical students in Rhode Island has very much increased. They are really creditable to the state. How much of this is due to the publication of the Rhode Island Historical Tracts it is not for the writer to say; but that their publications have awakened a lively interest in such matters is beyond question.

Rossmoyne:

This is another old fashioned, substantial love story like Phyllis, and Molly Bawn, and Portia, all by the same author. It is Irish in its characters, and in its localities. Monica, the heroine, is really a charming young Irish girl, and her sister Kit is brimful of Irish wit and humor. The two aunts of the two girls are most carefully drawn characters. In fact the author of this book has written nothing better, notwithstanding she is the writer of a dozen or more such stories. Yet there are many very absurd things in it. Here's one. Brian, he is the hero of the story, makes a proposal of marriage to Monica, the heroine of the story. She in a most sentimental way accepts him; then after a most affecting season, "suddenly he loosens his arms from round her, and pushing her slender, white robed figure gently backwards, gazes searchingly into her calm but wondering face, and says, tell me, (some mad inward craving driving him to ask the needless question,) if I had been killed yesterday, would you *in time* have loved another?" Rather a difficult question that. He should have asked her something easier. Bless me, what fools these mortals be. And yet such stories as this one often afford an agreeable relief to the nightly game of patience, which forms the sole dissipation of many excellent people. The little book is well reprinted by Lippincott & Co.

The New Rhode Island Almanac.

Mr. Stockwell comes again with his Rhode Island Almanac. It is 1884. In one respect he has made a very great improvement. It is in the price. Last year he made his selling price 25 cents. This year he has made it 10 cents. Mr. Stockwell's almanac is as much superior in every respect to any Rhode Island almanac which has preceded it as it is possible to conceive. The time in it is the new standard—the 75th meridian. The sun rises in Rhode Island by Mr. Stockwell's almanac, and by no other. In this respect Mr. Stockwell has a perfect monopoly. The vignettes, of which there are upwards of fifty, are all entirely new and very clever, far better than last year's. The diary of events is confined to Rhode Island, as it should be, and is much fuller than before. In this diary we note a slight change in Mr. Stockwell's politics. Last year, under the date April

18th, he said, "Pretended election of T. W. Dorr as Gov., 1842." This year he says, "Thos. W. Dorr elected Governor, 1842." It is clear that Mr. Stockwell has become a 'Dorrite'. In addition to this diary, running through the calendar pages, Mr. Stockwell has made a Chronological Record of events in Rhode Island for the year 1883. This of itself is worth the price he asks for his almanac. Many other things in it are good, especially a map which shows at a glance the new standard time belts. Were you to talk seven days, trying to explain to your children these time changes, they will know less about it than they would by looking at this map seven minutes. The BOOK NOTES has only this to complain of: it dislikes to hunt through fifteen pages of preliminary advertisements in search of the title-page. We lose sight of the real situation; we fondly imagine we are buying an almanac, in which a few advertisements are inserted; we are really buying a book of advertisements in which a little almanac is inserted. The almanac is entirely secondary, the advertisements being the main business. By and by how people will laugh at these absurd advertisements. They will come to be looked upon as demonstrations of the height to which the ridiculous can be carried.

Mr. E. C. Clark's new book *Practical Jurisprudence*, a comment on Austin, is a very small but a very learned book. It sets forth the advantages of the historical method of the study of the law and of jurisprudence as a means of legislation and of practical application to affairs. He is of the school of Austin, and Maine, and Tylor, and other eminent Englishmen.

The *Philosopher's Pendulum* is a series of five stories, one of which, and that's the first, is from Germany; another is a tale from France, still another is from Japan. They are by Randolph Lindau, and they are so new that the BOOK NOTES had no time to examine them, nevertheless they are exceedingly curious compositions.

The English magazines are filled with articles discussing the question of housing the poor. It is idle to discuss such a question while single individuals in England hold to their private uses 576,000 acres of the precious soil of the little island. Were they to take the shooting and pleasure-grounds and other lands of this single nobleman and on each acre place a house in which five persons were domiciled, the entire pauper population of England would be housed. This man alone could place an acre of ground to every five of the English poor. How is it possible that such an execrable system of holding the surface of the earth at the disposal of individuals can long endure? It ought not nor will it.

The new books announced by Roberts Brothers for last week are only just ready. *Blanc Corgyal* is a new No Name novel; the scenes in France, the characters are French. The *Silverado Squatters*, by Mr. Stevenson, tells us of a country where bucks and bears and rattlesnakes and mining operations are the staple of men's talk; of course that country is California. Mr. Lewis Morris's *Songs Unsung*, a collection of poems of which Mr. Gladstone wrote such a flattering letter. *Wind Voices*, a collection of poems by Philip Bourke Marston, who dedicates the book to Louise Chandler Moulton.

Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons have just issued in a neat and cheap form Mr. Froude's Short Biography of Luther. These papers were published first in the Contemporary Review as a review of Koestlin's new Life of Luther. The same firm have published the third volume of the newly revised History of the Christian Church, by Philip Schaff.

The Reverend H. W. Rugg is the editor of the Universalist Register for 1884. It is filled, like all these denominational almanacs, with statistics of the sects for which they are published.

Mr. Stone's "Our French Allies."

[From the Literary World, Jan. 12, 1884.]

The conglomerate and somewhat wandering title of this work very faintly expresses the vagrancy of it as a literary performance. If the book had been either much better or much worse, criticism could be more curt and less irritable. As the book stands, it is a medley, a heap, a mass, and one hardly knows whether to attack it with a shovel or a knife. It is profusely illustrated with portraits, autographs, and views of old houses; it is printed on good paper with generous margins; it abounds in quotations from original and sometimes rare documents; it has a general air of industry and good humor; yet in method it transgresses sequence and chronology in a most perplexing fashion; much of its material is not new, except to a novice; and as to its portraits, many of which we are unable to verify, those of Queen Victoria and Bi-hop Clark of Rhode Island, with whose features the public are tolerably familiar, awaken skepticism as to the value of the others, and tempt us to quote from *Hamlet*:

but no more like my father
Than I to Hercules.

After perusing most of these six hundred and odd pages, which put us on terms with the gallant gentlemen of France a hundred years ago, we experience a mental shock, very like that when one takes two steps down stairs at once in the dark, as we come without warning upon the portraits of Robert C. Winthrop and President Arthur, and a picture of the high school

building of Providence; and we wonder what these subjects have to do with "Our French Allies." It turns out, however, that the gentlemen assisted in the Centennial Commemoration at Yorktown, while some of our French guests visited the aforesaid high school. To show the value of much of the historical information which Mr. Stone imparts about these same "Allies," we may quote one piece of it, (p. 355), viz.: that "the works of the American Screw Company were next visited, and the complicated machinery for the manufacture of screws carefully examined." Undoubtedly they were, and the Screw Company was pleased to note the fact.

This imposing book has cost somebody a deal of money, but for what purpose? There is an unmistakable air of Jenkins in most of the personal descriptions. On the title-page the events run from "1778-1782," but on the book's back from "1778-1881." On every left-hand page of the text we have the running title, "Rhode Island in the Revolution," while the outside title is "Our French Allies." In Mr. Stone's attempted pictures there is very little attempt at drawing, and the perspective is all awry. His figures are too often puppets in a box instead of the great and generous men and women that they were. Whatever else this book is, it is *not* a history.

The foregoing criticism, with every word of which the BOOK NOTES is in accord, after all but faintly expresses the faults of this book. Beginning without any definite object, the author incorporated things relevant or irrelevant as it pleased his whim. It is very like one of my excellent friend H's obituary articles, one can find in them something about everything, save only the subject in hand. The book is an anachronism; it belongs to a period of book-making long since past, and happily past, in this country. It is not only without form and void but it lies in the face of historic truth. An instance of this can be found in his statement of the services of the negro battalion in the battle of Rhode Island. He repeats the old exploded fictions, sustaining them by such quotations of authorities, or what he considers authorities, as go to support his story, and ignoring altogether those historic facts of which he well knew and which would have utterly destroyed whole pages of his book. So, too, with regard to the old stereotyped adulation which has been heaped upon Jonathan Arnold by the writers of Rhode Island history. Jonathan Arnold was a member from Rhode Island of the Continental Congress. In this position he obtained possession of secrets disclosed only in secret sessions of Congress, which secrets he quickly and surely imparted to the enemies of his country, and thus thwarted the efforts of Washington. That was either treachery or rank treason. It was discovered, and the Doctor, Colonel, (for he was both,) left Con-

gress and left Rhode Island to be forever after depicted in Rhode Island history as a patriot and a hero, his treachery being carefully concealed. Now if Mr. Stone did not know this he was unfit to write a history. If he knew and yet repeated the old fictions he was still more unfit to write history. As a specimen of careless composition, nothing exceeds the amusing mixture he has made of Sally Arnold and her father. He says Sally was a member of Congress and a hospital director, etc., and that Jonathan married James Burrill and became Attorney-General of Rhode Island. Did time and space permit, one could go through the book in this way, eliminating things irrelevant and things positively untrue, until but very little of value would be left. Another but scarcely less fault is Mr. Stone's appropriation of the labors of others without due credit being giving. The one redeeming feature of these literary thefts is that they are the truest portions of his book.

As to a thorough and complete review, it is impossible; time is too valuable. But reference cannot be avoided to the index. What can be said of such references as these under A?—A curious agreement.—A dark period.—Allies, the earliest of our French.—An enterprise suggested.—Army moves.—Army of the enemy on Rhode Island.—A want supplied.—A wrong impression,—and so on *ad nauseam*. Of what value is such an index? The illustrations are positively a curiosity; the number of portraits inserted seem to have been limited only by the number of people who had engraved plates and would supply impressions at a low price. Not a single one was engraved for the work and they have about as little connection with it as they do with any other book. They are entirely out of place. And as for the wood-cuts they are simply execrable; take for example that of Lord Howe, p. 80, or Trumbull, p. 149, or Washington, p. 267. These ought to be called cut-woods rather than wood-cuts. Compare them for a moment with the wood-cuts in Harper's Magazine; but there is no comparison.

The BOOK NOTES learns with satisfaction that Mademoiselle Saniewska, the accomplished teacher of French at Miss Abbott's school, yielding to the solicitations of friends, has consented to give a series of French dramatic readings similar in kind to the course she so successfully gave during the last Lenten season. These readings will be given at 280 Benefit street. They will begin February 29th with *Le Collier d'Or*, by A. Millaud, and will be followed March 7th with *Le petit Pont d'Oreille*, by Goulan; March 14th with *Marcel*, by J. Sandeau et Decouedre; March 21st with *L'Héritière*, by C. Scribe; March 28th with *Lucie*, by G. Sand; and will close April 4th with *Rodolphe*, by E. Scribe. The readings will be given afterwards, commencing at 3:30 P.M. Tickets may be found at 17 Westminster street.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Entered as second class matter at the Providence R. I. Post-office.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY. {
Price 50 cts. per annum. }

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1884.

{ 2000 COPIES.
(NO. 24.) }

Subjects for Essays in the Schools:

A teacher in one of the schools in Providence asked the "BOOK NOTES" to suggest the names of historic localities about us, as subjects for essays for her scholars. The suggestion being good for a certain class of pupils, he begs to answer her inquiry in the following way, premising that the books and papers to which reference is made are easy of access in any of the libraries in the city.

ANNAWON'S ROCK, AND THE CAPTURE OF ANNAWON:—see Bliss's Hist. Rehoboth, p. 109; Church's King Philip's War, ed. 1827, p. 138; Mather's Hist. King Philip's War, ed. 1862, p. 127; Arnold's Hist. Rhode Island, vol. i, p. 417. The locality is on the main road to Taunton, about nine miles from Providence.

A VISIT TO THE STATE HOUSE IN PROVIDENCE to see and describe the portraits and how these men were connected with Rhode Island history. The accomplished Secretary of State, Mr. Addeman, would gladly give them assistance.

PERCEE'S FIGHT WITH INDIANS, on the Blackstone river between Pawtucket and Valley Falls. See Bliss's Rehoboth, p. 99; Drake's Book of the Indians, ed. 1841, Book 3, p. 47; Updike's Hist. Narragansett Church, p. 224; Mather's Hist. King Philip's War, ed. 1862, p. 127; Daggett's Hist. Attleborough, p. 47; Goodrich's Hist. Pawtucket, p. 22. In this connection some account could be given of William Blackstone, from whom the river gets its name, and of the wild rock house Quinsigamond.

NINE MEN'S MISERY. On the maps of Rhode Island, this spot is placed in the town Lincoln, once old Smithfield. It is seven miles from Providence. See Bliss's Hist. Rehoboth, p. 94. Daggett's Attleborough, p. 51; Hubbard's Hist. Indian Wars, ed. 1865, vol. 1, p. 177; Providence Daily Journal, July 19, 1873.

A VISIT TO RHODE ISLAND HALL, Brown University, to see and describe the portraits and the positions the originals held in Rhode Island affairs.

THE LANDING PLACES OF ROGER WILLIAMS, together with his spring, his dwelling place,

and place of burial. See Knowles' Life of Williams, p. 160. Concerning the spring, see the Microcosm, (a newspaper,) Feb. 24, 1826, in R. I. Historical Society Library. Allen's Memorial of Williams, in same library.

These subjects are all easy of investigation, closely connected with the history of Rhode Island, and if rightly followed, full of interest. Some of the most famous Indian stories came from Peirce's Fight. They are graphically described by both Bliss and Daggett. If these ideas could be carried out by scholars, habits of research would be acquired, which would be of vast benefit in future years, and they would learn how to extract pleasure from what they now consider merely musty old books.

Gleanings from God's Acre:

There is a sort of relationship between wills and epitaphs. The former informs us what the makers desire to have done. The latter what they are supposed, or ought to have done. Sam Johnson says no man ought to be commended for virtues which he did not possess, but whoever is curious to know his faults must inquire after them in other places than upon his monument. Under the name *Gleanings from God's Acre*, an English gentleman, Mr. Briscoe, has just issued a collection of epitaphs. It is an exceedingly curious, interesting, and amusing book.

Physical and Moral Law:

Mr. William Arthur, an English dissenting clergyman, has just issued a small treatise on the *Difference between Physical and Moral Law*. Books of abstract reason like this appeal to the highest class of intellects for supporters. The learned writer divides his subject into sundry parts, and then considers each part separately. Thus: 1st, The two kinds of agents governed by the two orders of law. 2nd, The relations established by the two orders. 3rd, The nature of the two orders. 4th, The combined operation of the two orders; resulting in a system of free agents and fixed instruments. Harper Brothers are its publishers.

The Silverado Squatters:

The author of this book is Mr. Robert Stevenson, a Scottish writer, who has written several gossip books of travel. The present one relates to a part of California, lying to the northward of San Francisco, the Sonoma country, much given now to wine growing. The name of his book comes from a remote settlement, or what was once a settlement, but which is now simply a sylvan solitude. Mr. Stevenson is given to mixed metaphors which sometimes are amusing. Thus when he speaks of "earth's cream being skimmed and garnered." Now cream is not garnered, nor is wheat skimmed. In one case he speaks of a "tunnel which ran straight into the *unsunned* bowels of the rock." It is bad enough to run into the bowels of the rock, but to run into the *unsunned* bowels must be frightful indeed. The book is indeed a *striking* one, but that in it, which most *struck* the Book NOTES, appears in the following quotations, p. 36: we *struck* to the left up a mountain road. P. 36, bright streams *striking* a lively coolness through the sunshine. P. 39, the place *hitting* his fancy down he sat. P. 44, whose abominable accents *struck* me dumb. P. 48, even the school book took his *whack*. P. 54, continually *switched* across the face by sprays of leaf or blossom. P. 73, one thing in this new country very particularly *strikes* a stranger. P. 73, Those standing on into changed times *strike* the imagination forcibly. P. 85, Then we *struck* off to the right. P. 89, Drawn up in shelter, *bugged* and breathless, at the Toll House door. P. 98, wading deep in poison oak till we *struck* a triangular platform. P. 99, Fanny and I *dashed* at the house. P. 99, The door of the lower room was *smashed*. P. 105, the Jews were not long *striking* forward. This is simply ludicrous, but it only shows how we fall into habits. The book consists of a couple of articles from Harper's Magazine, bright but light. Roberts Brothers publish it.

Joseph Addison:

The latest addition to the series of English Men of Letters, under the editorial care of Mr. John Morley, is *Joseph Addison* by W. J. Courthope. The materials for a life of Addison seem to be extremely scanty. Notwithstanding Johnson, Steele, Lucy Aiken, and others have written lives of Addison, yet Macaulay's Essay is about the most readable of all. This new memoir is a concise, compact, and well digested story. The tales of domestic infelicity and of intemperance are happily dissipated, while the calling of the dissolute Earl of Warwick to his bed-side to see how a Christian could die, still remains. One would like to have known the effect of this interview upon the reckless nobleman. These alone would compensate for the publication of the book. The Harpers are its publishers.

Schliemann's Successful Hunt for Troy:

At the close of his new book *Troja*, Dr. Schliemann says that his work at Troy is ended. It has covered a period of ten years or more, having begun in 1871. When he first began these excavations he declared that his single object was to find Troy, a city whose site had been discussed by a hundred scholars in a hundred books. He has made extensive excavations in many parts of the Troad, and in portions of Greece. The present volume is confined to his work in the former province in 1882, around the hill Hissarlik. This elevation is in the centre of the plain of Troy. It has always had close connection with the site, but many scholars favored other localities. Hitherto every argument has been based on theory. Hereafter every argument will be based on facts, and on things. Schliemann sums up the results of these last and we must say crowning discoveries, thus:—I have proved that in a remote antiquity there was in the plain of Troy, a large city, destroyed of old by a fearful catastrophe, which had on the hill of Hissarlik only its Acropolis with its Temples, and a few other large edifices, while its lower city extended in an easterly, southerly, and westerly direction, on the site of the later Ilium; and that, consequently, this city answers perfectly to the Homeric description of the site of sacred Ilios. These excavations, and others directly upon the locality, have disposed of the claims for Bounarbashi, as being the site of Troy. Those names, Ilios, Ilium, Troja, Troy are all names used for the same locality at various periods in antiquity, while that portion of Asia Minor in which the city stood is known as the Troad, Troas, Troiade and Ilium, all forming a portion of the province known at present as Mysia. It is a small tract of land lying between Mount Ida and the Aegean Sea, with the Hellespont, or the Dardanelles, on its northern side. Beside this work, Schliemann excavated several of the heroic tumuli, known individually as the tumulus of Achilles, of Patroclus, of Antilochus, and of Protesilaus. He found no trace of actual burial in any of them. The alleged tomb of Priam he found like all the others to be merely a memorial with no trace of burial. These form but a small number of references to the excavations Schliemann made, the entire surface of the country being scoured with his pick and spade. The book is admirably reprinted by the Harpers, from the English plates with all the maps and illustrations.

WOMAN—With illustrations from the writings of Charles Dickens, forms the subject of the second of Miss S. F. Barrows' readings. It will be given on Tuesday, February 5, at 265 Benefit street at four o'clock, P. M. Tickets at 17 Westminster street.

Twelve Months in an English Prison:

Under the above title, Susan Willis Fletcher has published an account of her personal experience. She was charged by another woman whose name is too long to be crowded into these little papers, with having, by means of false pretences, and the assistance of many husbands (for both women appear to have been rich in this species of property) obtained possession of many jewels and much other property. Mrs. Fletcher was an American woman resident in London, where she practiced the calling of a spiritualist medium. In this guise she obtained a great ascendancy over the weak minded Mrs. J. A. T. H. R. H. Davies, who instituted a criminal suit against her, she was tried at Bow street and at the Old Bailey, convicted, sent for a year first to Newgate and then to the Westminster prison. She of course thinks she had no fair trial. The BOOK NOTES thinks she had no defence. The testimony she would fall back upon is precisely similar to that which hanged the witches of Salem; and which R. P[er] [sic] overthrew with a logical force so irresistible that Judge Sewall who condemned the witches, confessed to a public assembly his error in judgment, and from that day to the day of his death, held every year a day of fasting and prayer. All the events, the complaint, trial, conviction, imprisonment are merely commonplace; they are of the ordinary affairs of life; they happen every day, but there are some things spoken of in the narration which do not happen,—at all events to all of us every day. Such things as the bringing into her cell in Newgate, bunches of delicious grapes by the spirits in the night time, and the finding of the grape skins and stems on the table, by the keepers in the morning, and the consequent wonderment of the said keepers as to how the grapes were conveyed within the cell. *These keepers have not certified the facts to be as alleged.* At another time how her spirit left her body on its bed in prison, and visited her husband and another man in Boston. Spent some hours there and returned to the London prison, re-entered her cell, to find her body had rolled from the bed upon the stone floor, where it lay cold and senseless. Into this body her spirit crept, warmed it, and put it back into bed again. To support this superhuman experience, she gives us only her own story without a scintilla of evidence, and yet we are expected to believe it. The achievements of Jack the Giant-Killer rest on much stronger foundations, than do these extravagances. There is one other statement by Mrs. Fletcher which the BOOK NOTES believes not a word of. It is that among the distinguished people who have become satisfied with the reality of these "psychic," or "spiritual," phenom-

ena may be found our own Bishop Clark, of Rhode Island. Now the BOOK NOTES knows this Bishop, and it does not believe that he believes a word of these wild stories, nor will he when he reads them. The book is neatly issued by Lee & Shepard, and will excite some interest outside the circle of believers.

Old Mark Langston:

A new American novel, by Mr. Richard M. Johnston, has just been published by the Harpers. It is a tale of Dukes Creek. The locality is an obscure corner in the northerly part of Georgia. The characters are mainly the illiterate slave owners of half a century ago, with an infusion of good, vigorous blood—northern blood from the Green Mountains. Kinsey Duke, the capitalist of the story, was an ignorant man without moral principle. Lucius Woodbridge, a young Vermont lawyer, went South for health, and while recuperating taught school. He became by sheer force of character a power in his neighborhood for good. A crooked social connection of Duke's with old Mark Langston's daughter, whereby she and her children were defrauded of a large property by Dukes and his associates, and its subsequent discovery and recovery by the rightful owners, mainly through the clear intelligence, persistence, and downright pluck of Woodbridge and his quiet friends, forms the web and woof of the story. The story is a good and wholesome one, and the interest is well maintained unto the end. The right triumphs much to the satisfaction of the reader.

Diane Coryval:

Diane Coryval was a young French girl who had a lover, who was unsatisfactory to her father. So Diane was spirited away and persuaded that her lover had abandoned her for another. So she married a good honest fellow and settled down to the actualities of life. By and by her real and only genuine lover turns up. The real state of facts becomes known to each other. Then comes the struggle to be true to their moral sense to each other, and Diane to her husband. This difficult task was accomplished, but the husband of Diane didn't believe it. So thereafter as long as the husband lasted ensued trouble for Diane. Virtue, in her case, must have been its own reward, for she got no other. Happily her husband was gathered soon after to his fathers; Diane married her real lover, and thereafter contentment and happiness dwelt together beneath her roof. The story is a first rate one, in fact, one of the best of the No Names. Roberts Brothers are its publishers.

Tickets for the readings from the French dramatists, by Mademoiselle Samiewska, are now ready at 17 Westminster street.

Cobwebs of Criticism:

Mr. T. Hall Caine has recently issued a book under the name above, in which he has arranged the criticisms of the time on Wordsworth, Southey, Coleridge, Byron, Leigh Hunt, Keats, and Shelley. These criticisms read very curiously now, after the lapse of a half, or three quarters of a century. They appeared originally in Blackwood, or the Monthly Review, or the Edinburgh, or some other of the great English reviews. They are directly opposed to the present estimate of these writers. Every age however has its literary gods, and the present estimate is by no means final. A century hence a Mr. T. Hall Caine may write a book and set these mis-eaten critics on their pins again, who knows?

In the Soudan:

It is in this immense African land gives innumerable articles in the newspapers and magazines. In many of these the country is spoken of as *the Soudan*. This arises from the meaning of the name, which has, in common use, become contracted. The real name is Keled-es-Soudan, meaning, the land of the blacks. It having been regarded as the home of the negro race. It is an unknown land with a population variously estimated at from ten to eighty millions of people. Its name is variously spelled thus, Soudan, Soodan, Sudan, and sometimes Nigritia. The most recent book about the country is that mentioned in these "BOOK NOTES" number, 22 written by F. L. James, called the *Wild Tribes of the Soudan*.

Messrs. Roberts Brothers announce for early publication: "VESTIGIA," a new novel by the author of "Kismet," "Mirage," and "The Head of Medusa." This well-known writer, whose real name is Julia Constance Fletcher, has given us in "Vestigia" a work of real power. The title is a part of the Latin proverb, *Vestigia nulla retrosum*—no steps backward—which is the *motif* of the story. —"TREASURE ISLAND," Robert Louis Stevenson's new book, is nearly ready for publication. It deals with a mysterious island, a buried treasure, the bold buccaner, and all the stirring incidents of a merry life on the Spanish main. Primarily it is a book for boys. But it is a book for boys which will be delightful to men. —OLD LADY MARY, a story of the seen and unseen, by the author of "A Little Pilgrim," of which it is practically a continuation.

The new De La Rue playing cards are not only the most beautiful in the market, but they are by far the best and the cheapest. The American cards with the assistance of a fifty per cent. protective tariff cannot compare with them. A great variety at 17 Westminster street.

The Tenth Census, that of 1880, of the United States, will comprise about twenty-seven volumes, in the ordinary quarto form of similar government publications.

Memories of McDonald Clarke:

It was just fifty years on the 21th of January since McDonald Clarke delivered in Franklin hall a lecture on Love and Marriage, as connected with religion and human happiness. This lecture had been delivered in Boston five times to crowded houses, and so Mr. Clarke concluded to try its success here. In a poem in the *Boston Transcript* he announced the fact, complaining that Providence had never smiled upon him, yet he would tempt her once more. He had been much here and in Newport.

Many of the poems, gathered in the volume he issued in 1836, are connected with scenes or things or people in Rhode Island, and many now living will remember him. One of his wittiest poems had this caption, "Mad R. I. gals." He was called the mad poet, and he *was* eccentric. In the lecture here he undertook to demonstrate that the possession of wealth was insufficient to secure perfect happiness to the married. Now that was more than eccentric; that was downright insanity. His mind became a little more evenly balanced as he undertook to show how the charms of courtship could be maintained unbroken by marriage; and when he showed how beauty was preserved in a *youthful* old age, he was quite on an even keel again. When asked what he meant by *double* tickets to his lecture, he replied they were not for two *single* persons. In his poems there is one to King Philip, wherein he says:

"Philip was their Prince—because
He could take care of the most—squaws."

If this is true, much wrong has been done to the memory of Philip in ascribing the invention of Mormonism to Joseph Smith. Smith only copied Philip. Another of his poems is inscribed to Newport, "an ancient town fenced by the surge," and another to Rhode Island,

"——the mother of a race
Of sturdy sons and daughters."

His metaphors and comparisons are sometimes exceedingly powerful. He speaks of "Freedom in shirtless majesty," which is a truly vigorous thought. He said, "a broad, white forehead is the diploma of God." On it the "Almighty has stamped his signature; but the Devil often kisses out the signature and scrawls his own there." While many of his verses are, in form of expression, coarse, yet, scattered through them are fine poetic fancies. Exceedingly susceptible to the charms of women, he was continually inscribing verses to them. These verses, while not of a high order of poetic merit, are neither sensuous nor immoral. He was a poet, and he saw women as only poets see them. He was poor, and he saw wealth only as a poor poet sees such fleeting fancies. He lives only upon love, and poetry is his real estate.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Entered as second class matter at the Providence R. I. Post-office.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY. (Price 50 cts. per annum.)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1884.

{ 2000 COPIES.
(No. 25.)

The Greek Sermons of Dr. Arnold, of Warwick, Rhode Island:

A new work of a peculiar character has recently been added to the catalogue of writings of Rhode Island men. It is a volume of sermons in the language of the modern Greeks. Its title as translated for the BOOK NOTES by a learned member of the Rhode Island Bar, runs thus: "Gospel Addresses delivered at different times in Corfu, at Piræus, (the seaport of Athens,) and at Athens, by A. N. Arnold, D. D. Athens: Printed at the office of the Athenais, 1883." Dr. Arnold, the author of these sermons, was for twelve years, 1844-1855, a missionary, under the auspices of the American Baptist Missionary Union in Greece, where these discourses were delivered by him to audiences of native Greeks. Their catholicity of spirit is well illustrated by the fact that their publication thirty years after their delivery was sought by Congregationalist missionaries, and the expense was borne by the London Religious Tract Society. One thousand copies were printed. The volume is an octavo of upward of four hundred pages. Dr. Arnold was born at Pawtuxet, in Warwick, February 12, 1814, in the same house in which he died, October 11, 1883. He was an exceedingly scholarly man. The language as exhibited in these discourses is regarded as an excellent model by those competent to judge. After Dr. Arnold's return to America he occupied leading professorships in several Theological Seminaries to the great satisfaction of those concerned in their welfare. He was thoroughly imbued with the spirit of Greek history and the social life of the Greek people, and he formed friendships with leading Greeks which ended only with his death.

M. J. Savage, whose books *Beliefs about God* and *Beliefs about Man* have long been before us, has just now issued his *Beliefs about the Bible*. He says the anniversary of Luther's birth is a fitting time to inquire as to the finality of his work which was practically the one theme of the Pope as the vice-gerent of God on earth and the establishment of the Bible. It is even inquiry as to the nature of the Bible itself.

The Bible Word Book:

This book was written by one of the most learned antiquaries now living in England, William Addis Wright. It is a Glossary of Archaic (antiquated or obsolete) words and phrases in the King James version of the Bible, and in the English book of common prayer. It was first published in 1895. It has long been out of print, and it has now been enlarged and reissued. The theory of the book is that such words and phrases as would not naturally find a place in the best prose compositions of our time are archaic, and since the language of the King James version represents the best English in use between the Tyndale translation (1535) and the King James version (1611), it must of course follow that the meaning of terms must be found in the writings of the best writers of that period. Thence Mr. Wright sought and brought the illustrative passages with which his book abounds. It is excellent. Macmillan publishes it.

Skottowe's Outlines of English Constitutional History:

Prof. Andrews of Brown University has recently recommended to his class of seniors to buy this admirable little book. The object of the author, who is an Oxford Professor, was to arrange in order outlines of the growth of the most important English institutions as a ground plan for the study of English Constitutional History, in which department Professor Stubbs still holds the leading place. The students of Brown University are to be congratulated for having this excellent little book called to their notice. It arranges everything in exact order, eliminates all useless matters, and quickly fixes in the mind the salient points; that is all that books can do, thought must do the rest.

The paper on Indian money, (wampum) as a factor in New England civilization, read by Mr. William B. Weedon before the Historical Society, recently, is to appear in the second series of University Studies, issued by Prof. H. B. Adams, of Johns Hopkins University.

Notes Concerning New Books :

Queen Victoria has recently issued *More Leaves from the Journal of a Life in the Highlands*.—Mr. Henry George has just published in England a new book, *Social Problems*, which the *London Times* says is certain to secure a very large number of readers. The *Times* says of Mr. George that he is a writer of very remarkable powers.—A fourth edition of Mr. Morris's *Songs Unsung* has just been issued in England.—Newport Society seems to be a favorite subject for the manipulation of story writers, just now Mr. George Parsons Lathrop has one issued by the house of Scribner.—Mr. Julian Hawthorne has a new novel *Beatrice Randolph*, published by Osgood. Miss Beatrix, the heroine of the story, is a charming creation in fiction.—Mr. Henry Drummond's *Natural Law in the Spiritual World* is certainly the most remarkable book of its class for years; six editions have been rapidly sold.—*Heinrich Düntzer's Life of Goethe* has been translated into English and published by Macmillan. It is by far the best memoir yet written. It abounds in portraits and fac-similes, and forms a closely printed volume of 800 pages. No attempt is made to give a history of Goethe's writings. Düntzer modestly undertakes to clear away the rubbish for the coming biographer. Mr. Henry James has gathered into a volume a collection of papers descriptive of places, (published in sundry serials in former years) under the title *Portraits of Places*. Our own Newport is among them.—Dr. Seiss, who became well known in literature by his interesting book on the Pyramids, the *Miracle in Stone*, has just published through Porter & Coates a work on *Luther and the Reformation*, the life springs of our liberties.—Mr. Henry C. Lea has just published through Houghton, Mifflin & Co. a second edition of his *Historical Sketch of Sacerdotal Celibacy in the Christian Church*. Mr. Lecky, in his history of European Morals characterizes Mr. Lea's work as one of very great learning, admirably impartial, and one of the most valuable yet produced in America. There is no more competent judge of such things than Mr. Lecky. — An edition of Walt Whitman's Poems has just appeared in England with a remarkable addenda. The addenda was compiled by Edward Dowden, one of the greatest among living Shakespearean scholars. It gives the fullest history of opinion with reference to Whitman among English scholars yet given; among others are the names of Ruskin, Tennyson, Swinburne, Rossetti, Prof. Clifford, J. A. Symonds, Hartwell Horne, Archbishop Trenchard and of course George Eliot. This seems to us incredible.—Among the most recent books is an English translation of Dr. Zeller's *History of Eclecticism in Greek Philosophy*. These books

of Zeller's stand to-day as the most learned of their class.—Mr. Grant Allen has gathered in a volume, several aforesaid sketches of his, under the title *Flowers and their Pedigrees*. It forms a curious study in a new field.—*Fresh Light from the Ancient Monuments* is the name given by Prof. Sayce, of Oxford, to a study of his on the striking confirmations of the Bible, from recent discoveries in Egypt, Assyria, Palestine, Babylonia and Asia Minor. For those who have no time to investigate in detail these great modern discoveries, this little book will be a convenient summary, so far as this precise point is concerned. *English Dates in Rhyme* is an extremely clever way of remembering English chronology. It is a bijou book.

The Revolt of the Gladiators :

Prusias, a romance of ancient Rome, is another of those classic novels which Mr. W. S. Gottsberger has been so successful in publishing. *Prusias* is written by Ernst Eckstein, the same who wrote *Quintus Claudius*. The period is about seventy-five years before the birth of Christ. Julius Caesar was just coming upon the stage. The Roman Legions were in the distant east fighting the barbarian Mithridates. Ground by a seemingly endless period of horrible oppressions, the Roman slaves revolted and civil wars broke out afresh in various parts of the Roman Republic. The principal events at this precise time was the revolt of the Gladiators under their leader Spartacus, and it is this event which forms one of the chief things in *Prusias*. The author has followed history as closely as was possible, whenever deviations were necessary to give effect to his story, he has, in a note, corrected the error. It is a historical novel, filled with most carefully written notes by a very learned writer. No one can read it without becoming very much interested in the story itself, besides the polishing which his classical studies will receive.

With Clive in India:

This is a book for boys, by G. A. Henty, a new writer of books for boys, and, moreover, one of the very best. The period between the landing of Clive as a young writer in India and the close of his career was critical and eventful in the extreme. At its commencement the English were traders existing on sufferance of the native princes. At its close they were masters of Bengal and of the greater part of Southern India. The author has given a full and accurate account of the historical events of that stirring time, and battles and sieges follow each other in rapid succession, while he combines with his narrative a tale of daring and adventure, which gives a lifelike interest to the volume. If half the commendations bestowed by English reviewers on this book be true it must be positively admirable.

Life at Puget Sound :

This little book by Mrs. Caroline C. Leighton is beyond any question the best of its kind for many a long day. It consists of a series of sketches of life and travel in this most distant of American possessions. Puget Sound is a vast inland sea in the north westernmost corner of Washington Territory. It is navigable for the largest ships. From it large quantities of pine and fir timber are brought. So precipitous are its shores that the largest ships can, in many cases, take their cargoes close to the shores without the need of wharves. It reaches inland at its furthest point more than a hundred and fifty miles from the Pacific. In this and the surrounding wild countries Mrs. Leighton passed many years of her life. From her experience she has related many incidents and adventures which go well to illustrate the life and character of the people. These things she has told in a very simple but very effective way, and her book makes most excellent reading. The period covered lies between the years 1865 and 1881, hence it is the latest upon that section of the country,—a country destined in the near future to be one of the great commercial centres of America. Lee & Shepard are the publishers of Mrs. Leighton's book.

Mental Evolution in Animals :

This is a new volume by Mr. George J. Romanes, whose book *Animal Intelligence* was not long since published by the Appletons. In this new volume the author has included a hitherto unpublished Essay on Instinct by Charles Darwin, who seems to have made Mr. Romanes a sort of Literary Executor on this particular subject, "Instinct." The book is a pioneer. Its object is to prepare the way for a proper consideration of the differences which exist between the two great schools of Evolution as to the Human Mind; whether it has been evolved from lower types, or whether it stands apart,—a separate existence. Mr. Romanes believing that this question is of great consequence, and that it can be approached scientifically only by a comparison between the two intelligences, herein proceeds to inquire the nature and extent of the evidences of mental evolution in the brute creatures.

Notes on Electricity :

The rapid strides of this new science outstrips the art of book-making. Just now comes Lieut. Murdock of the U. S. Navy with a new book designed as a companion to Prof. Thompson's *Elementary Lessons*. This little book has come to be thought the best on the subject. Lieut. Murdock's book is entitled *Notes on Electricity and Magnetism*; both are published by Macmillan. Lieut. Murdock is of the U. S. Naval Academy, and this book arose from his experience in the instruction therein pursued.

Old Lady Mary :

The thousands of readers of the *Little Pilgrim* will be delighted with this new book by the same writer, whose style of composition is indeed attractive. The object of the story is to give the author's idea of a peep behind the veil which separates the quick and the dead. Lady Mary seems to have pursued in this world principally those things which most people think go to make the sum of human happiness,—wealth, beauty, position, power,—and yet she was not happy. Death in the end overtook her, as it will most of us, but it was merely an incident, she died and knew it not; without knowing how, she found herself among a strange people pursuing their daily avocations. It was in the hereafter, and she like all the others went at her daily toils. It was just a repetition of life's trials and anxieties from which, if true, the Lord preserve us. Roberts Brothers publish it.

A Search for Buried Treasure :

Mr. Robert Stevenson turns out books with almost as much rapidity as the lightning calculator performs operations in addition,—two in a month. This time it is the story of a party of English gentlemen going down upon the sea in ships, to find a hoard of curious gold which had been buried on an obscure little island in a remote part of the world by the buccaneers of the Spanish main. The clue to this *cache* the leader of the party thought he had found in a curious cryptogram which had fallen into his hands. One is reminded at once of Mr. Poe's famous Gold Bug story. There is, however, in Mr. Stevenson's *Treasure Island* very many more stirring incidents. Pirates, bloody fights, hair-breadth escapes, *et id genus omne*. The story is intensely interesting, and has withal an air of verisimilitude about it. Roberts Brothers publish it with illustrations.

The Collecting of Pamphlets :

In a recent *Spectator* there is some account of a collection made by Mr. Charles Halliday, a merchant of Dublin, and prominent in various walks of life. He died in 1866, and his widow presented the collection to the Royal Irish Academy. It relates entirely to Ireland and comprises 29,000 pieces,—besides books and broadsides. The *Spectator* says the collection is the finest in the Kingdom, and hence of course in the world, and that literary men alone can comprehend its vast extent and priceless value. There is in the city of Providence a collection of Pamphlets relating to the literature, the politics, the religious, the industries of Rhode Island, numbering more than ten thousand pieces; each piece treated to a card catalogue, numbered, boxed and shelved just as books are treated in great libraries. Its treasures are thus instantly accessible.

Something about Dictionaries:

The little Worcester's dictionary just now being sold for twenty-five cents a copy, is a marvel of excellence and of usefulness. No matter how many dictionaries one has, yet every one ought to have several copies of this one lying about upon his tables. If this convenient little book is handy at one's elbow he will consult it when he would not take the trouble to rise and lift his heavy Webster quarto. Just there is its greatest value. We consult it at such times as we would consult no other. It has about seventeen thousand words. When one considers that in the course of his reading, and conversation, he will never have occasion to use, nor will he probably ever see, more than seven hundred different words, he can easily understand how often this excellent little book will meet his requirements. It may not be uninteresting in this connection to compare this book with its 17,000 words, with the great dictionaries of the English language. Johnson's edition by Latham, much used in England but little known in America, has about 63,000; Worcester's quarto about 116,000; Webster's quarto about 118,000. Just at this moment there are in course of publication in England three dictionaries which will far exceed either in the number of words presented. One of these new dictionaries will be compressed into about twenty-six volumes quarto. In the meantime buy the little Worcester for twenty-five cents.

The Art of Painting in Water Color:

In no department of the Fine Arts is there more present general interest than there is in Paintings in Water Color. The current number of Harper's Weekly has several wood-cuts of pictures now on exhibition at the National Academy of Design. One of our young Providence artists, Mr. Sydney Burleigh, has the honor of having one of his pictures thus reproduced. It was indeed well worthy of this distinction. Apropos, there are several admirable English treatises upon this branch of art, well calculated to assist those desirous of acquiring it. Mr. Vere Foster's *Simple Lessons in Water Color* is one of these inexpensive helps; another is by two authors, Mr. R. P. Leitch and Mr. J. Callow, entitled *Easy Studies in Water Color Painting*; still another is a series of *Sketches in Water Colors* by various artists. All these books contain, besides many wood-cut vignettes for drawing, beautifully colored pictures for copying, each picture is described by an experienced master, and very full instructions accompany it. They teach us not only how to paint with artistic skill, but they also teach us to understand and appreciate the works of others.

Animated Names for Tools and Machines:

A unique study it is to note the names given in ordinary conversation to tools, or machines, or parts of machines, by those who either make or use the same. An evening or two since, as those who write the *BOOK NOTES* sat dreamily around the winter's evening fire log, the conversation turned upon this subject, with the result following: It is curious to note the important part which portions of the human body plays in this nomenclature. The subject has by no means been exhausted, only those things are noted which were in present memory. Inquiring among various trades for such information would surprise the inquirer. There are such things as *eye bolts*, *lip drills*, *thumb screws*, *hand screws*. A Corliss engine has a *crab claw*; a saw has *teeth*; a milling machine has a *goose neck*; there is a valve motion which has *toes*; wind musical instruments have *tongues* and *throats*; a horse bridle has a *throat latch*; an engine a *throttle valve*; sawmills have *brows*; gears have *teeth*; a moulding has a *cheek*; a ship has *knees*; a sewing machine has an *arm*; a needle an *eye*; a spindle has an *ear-mouth*; there is the *crisp-pin* of a crank; the *jaw* of a *monkey wrench*; the *neck* of a bar; the *ribs* of a ship; *bolt heads*, *nosings* tools, *heart cams*, *jack screws*, *snipe bills*; *horn gears* are in braiding machines. There is a *snail* in a clock as there is also a *fly*, and a *face* and *hands*. Machinists use a tool called a *worm*; farmers use *crane bars*; carpenters use *rabbit planes* and *horses*. In railways there is a *frog*; the tailor has his *goose*; there is an *alligator wrench*. In cotton mills there are *mules*, *fly-frames* and spinning *jeanies*. The *sheep shank* hitch and the *cat's paw* knot are well known forms of tying. A *feather* or a *fin* edge are terms used in casting metals. There is such a form as an *egg oval*. Propeller screws have *flukes*. There is a small iron implement used in many trades called a *dog*; a part of this implement is known as the *tail*. Send the boys on an inquiring expedition and listen to the tales of fun and frolic, and knowledge, they will tell when they come home.

Those who are fond of French literature are reminded of the six dramatic readings by Mademoiselle Saniewska, beginning February 29, at 250 Benefit St., at 3.30 p. m. Tickets at 17 Westminster St.

Rhode Island Historical Tract No. 19, forms part one of Mr. W. E. Foster's admirable paper on Stephen Hopkins. The subject grew to such proportions that two parts were necessary. Part one is ready, but is being held back for the completion of the second part which is nearly ready.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Entered as second class matter at the Providence R. I. Post-office.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY.
Price 50 cts. per annum.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1884.

{ 2000 COPIES.
(No. 26.)

Japan and the Japanese:

The existence of Japan became known to Europeans through the accounts given by Marco Polo in the thirteenth century. It is singular how for six hundred years these people have remained unknown to the outside world. The first attempt in modern times to penetrate their seclusion was made by the American government in 1852-4, when Commodore Perry with a squadron visited the empire for the purpose of making a treaty of commerce. A very elaborate report of this undertaking was published by the American government in 1856. The exhibition of art manufactures made by the Japanese at Philadelphia in 1876 was a revelation to the western nations. Since the expedition under Commodore Perry many people have visited the empire and written accounts of more or less value. In 1871 the Prussian government, for the purpose of obtaining a more exact knowledge, determined to send a competent person who should live long enough in the country to accomplish the object; in other words, he should know what he was sent for and how to get it. The agent selected was Mr. J. J. Rein; he was head master of the Model School of Physical Science at Frankfort-on-the-Main. He seems by his work to be a man entirely competent for the work for which he was selected by his government. His report has been translated into English under his own supervision, and is just now ready. Nothing approaching it in thoroughness and completeness has before been written. Were a Japanese desirous of reading a complete physical and historical account of his own country he would be obliged first to learn to read either the English or the German language. The Empire of Japan consists of several islands lying contiguous to each other at the extreme eastern part of Asia. The extent of the empire is equal to the extent of England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Holland and Belgium combined. The population was in 1874 about thirty-four millions. The population of Great Britain was in 1871 about thirty-two millions. By this rude comparison some idea can be obtained of this great empire of Japan. A slender summary of the contents of Mr. Rein's book is all that the BOOK NOTES

can give to its readers; but it recommends them all to read the book itself. First, Mr. Rein describes the situation, size and general divisions of the country, its coast line and its harbors; he follows with the geological formation, the volcanoes, the hot springs, the mountain chains, the river and lake systems, the climate, the flora and the fauna. That is an outline of his physiography of the country. An idea of the immensity of this study can be obtained from a comparison of a single department, of the flora, that of forest trees, with other countries. For this comparison he is indebted to Prof. Gray. The forests of Europe present 85 species; the forests of Atlantic North America, 155 species; of Pacific North America, 78 species; while the forests of Japan present 168 species—a greater number than any known country. Following these exhaustive and learned accounts Mr. Rein takes up the political history of the people, in point of time running but to B. C. 600, and extending down to recent times, even since A. D. 1854. This comes down to the advent of Commodore Perry, of which there is a most interesting and complimentary account. This event was the most extraordinary thing which had been presented to the Japanese mind. They were stunned; they knew not what to do. But Perry did not hurry them. The Japanese historian writes that the American ambassador arrived with four ships at Uraga, a city in Sagami, a province on the bay of Yedo, and distant from Tokio about fifteen miles; here he delivered a letter for the emperor in which he asked for a treaty of friendship and commerce. Eight days after, Perry sailed out of Uraga, saying the next year he would come for their answer. He sailed for the Loochoos and wrote to his government for more ships. His government sent him four more ships, three of which were steamers. With this powerful fleet he boldly entered the bay of Yedo in the following year as he said he would, and despite the orders of the Japanese cast anchor twelve miles nearer the capital than before. Here he asked for an answer to his letter. The result, of course, everybody knows; but everybody does not know how this enterprise appears to other nations. Mr. Rein says: "Commodore Perry had himself

suggested the expedition, which he conducted with great skill and brought to a satisfactory conclusion, attaching an object of the greatest importance for which other nations had striven in vain. The whole civilized world reaped the advantages which sprung therefrom, and must ever hold his name in honor. Perry showed his knowledge of human nature and his diplomatic skill pre-eminently by the handling of his ships; by openly declaring that the Americans would never submit to such restrictions as were imposed upon the Dutch or the Chinese; by his attitude, friendly yet dignified and decided, and by his elaborate attention to etiquette and splendor without the slightest effort to imitate the Japanese too carefully. In these matters he impressed them quite as much as by the power he exhibited, and by the specimens of American civilization which he gave them, the railway which he built and the telegraph which he established." Mr. Rein then follows with a history of the language and literature of the people, their dress, dwellings and food, their family relations, festivals and other social customs; in fact he has written a complete account of this most interesting, but little known people. Fine engravings and excellent maps accompany the work. Messrs. A. C. Armstrong & Son have imported an edition for the American market.

Mr. Green's History of the Conquest of England:

The preface written by Alice Stopford Green to the History of the *Conquest of England*, by her late husband, Mr. John Richard Green, is truly pathetic. Such a picture of devotion to his beloved studies, in spite of fatal disease, has seldom or never been written of any man. His book was a victory wrested from the grave. The period covered by this book is practically A. D. 753 to A. D. 1071. Beginning with the arrival of Hægarht which preceded the formation of towns and the beginning of the codes, he follows with the coming of the Vikings, or pirate chiefs from the north, in the account of which he speculates somewhat as to what would have happened had they permanently succeeded. Then came the Danes, giving battle, and making the Danelaw. This brings down the history to 878. Then came Alfred with his military and legal reforms, his creation of a navy and his great intellectual force. Out of these contending factions had grown a system of provincial governorship herein styled Ealdormary. As these provincial rulers grew powerful their effect upon the government of the country became apparent, and Mr. Green has devoted a chapter in describing the results of their operations. This brings him to the Danish Conquest, 958, the reign of Cnut, 1035, the House of Godwine, 1050, and then to the

Norman Conquest, where he stops. At this point the student must have recourse to Mr. Freeman's elaborate history. Notwithstanding disease with resistless energy was pursuing its victim, his look which was not born until its author was dead, bears the same marks of originality, the same matchless vigor, the same vividness of narration, the same rich fancy that characterized all his earlier efforts. His name will stand foremost among the modern school of historical writers. Harpers are his publishers in this country.

The Hessians in the Revolution:

Mr. E. J. Lowell has made an attempt to describe separately from general history the services of the German mercenaries in the British army during the war of the Revolution. This has not before been done. Several years since, Mr. George W. Greene gathered into a volume three reviews, of as many books, to which he gave the dignified name of the *German Element in the War of Independence*. It was in no sense an attempt to set forth these services, such as Mr. Lowell has now attempted. It was simply these three reviews. Since a large contingent of these Germans served several years in Rhode Island, the BOOK NOTES selects that particular portion for its mention.

The British army, under Sir William Howe, which occupied Newport in 1776, consisted of seven thousand men. Of this body of troops one-half were Germans. They remained in Newport for three years, during which time the battle of Rhode Island was fought. Mr. Lowell's account of the battle of Rhode Island is contained in fourteen lines. He gives the losses of the German regiment as 128, which was about one-half of the entire loss of the British army. His main authority for this very short account is given as Max Von Elking, whose entire account was printed in Rhode Island Historical Tract No. 6, pp. 35-36. This tract was published in 1878, and gives a very much fuller and better account of the German services at Newport than is contained in Mr. Lowell's book. More or less detailed accounts are given of the services of these men in various parts of the country, especially at Trenton, Stillwater, Saratoga, and in the southern campaigns. There is in the various accounts of various writers the greatest difference of statement, utterly irreconcilable. But as to the numbers sent over, there is a pretty general concurrence. There were about 20,000. Of these, about 12,500 did not return. Some died from sickness and some were killed. But Mr. Lowell concludes that 5,000 deserted. It is to be true perhaps many found homes in the United States. This is the first special account of the services of these men in the war of the Revolution. Of the French troops very

much more has been written. This is probably because the Germans were mercenaries, sold by their king to fight, not the enemies of their country but the enemies of another nation. The book is illustrated with several maps, a good index, and many notes, and is altogether a scholarly performance. Harpers are its publishers.

McCarthy's History of England:

Mr. Justin McCarthy, M. P., wrote some time since a *History of Our Own Times*. It was in two volumes, and was in fact an excellent history of England, from the accession of Victoria, in 1837, to 1880. It became immediately very popular and many editions have been called for. He has now condensed it, and the publishers, by using a smaller sized type, and setting the same without leads, have compressed it into one volume in place of the two as before. This very much reduces the price and places it within reach of many people who hitherto hesitated to buy it. It is contemporaneous history, which is the most difficult to obtain for several reasons, but mainly because writers dislike to write of times, during the lives of the actors therein. Mr. McCarthy succeeded admirably in his attempt. His book is thoroughly good. This new condensed edition proves it. Harpers publish it.

Mrs. Southworth's "Ishmael":

Those people who read with pleasure the novels of Mrs. Southworth, read them with immense pleasure. To ignore the writings of a novelist who has published forty-four novels, each comprising from 600 to 800 pages, cannot be done; more especially it cannot be done when it is known that these same forty-four novels are more read than are the works of any other writer of fiction in the world. Yet this is true of the novels of Mrs. Southworth. They have been published and re-published, but they never grow old; they are perennial; a new crop of readers springs up with every re-issue. Now, wherein consists their power? Will not some competent critic dissect them and tell us whereof it comes? Just now there is a new one called *Ishmael*, or *In the Depths*. Its author considers it to be the very best of her writing. Whether her immense army of readers will agree with her, remains to be seen. But of one thing we may be sure—they will read her book. Messrs. T. B. Peterson & Brother are her publishers.

Camping Among Cannibals:

This book is a cleverly written account by Alfred St. Johnson of his travels among the natives of the South Pacific Islands, more particularly the Friendly Islands. At Tongabu he tells us of the wonderful stone structure which

has thus far puzzled everybody. It is upon an island. No other stones of a like character are upon the island. It is a huge tripod, 16 feet high, 20 feet long, 12 feet wide, morticed together. Now, who did it? How did they do it? When did they do it? He visited the islands Haapai and Vavau, upon each of which he made prolonged stops, visiting remote parts. At Samoa he also stayed some time, but at Fiji he made his longest tarry, and of its people he tells us most. He who has read the voyages of Captain Cook will recognize all these islands, but the news brought by Mr. St. Johnson is a century later.

The Age of Steel:

Under the title the *Creators of the Age of Steel*, Mr. W. T. Jenks has given the Biographies of the great inventors of the modern processes of making steel. Beginning with Sir Henry Bessemer, he gives the distinguishing features of his invention, and the trials and tribulations, the honors and rewards which followed; and so with Sir William Siemens, Sir Joseph Whitworth, Sir Joseph Brown, Mr. S. G. Thomas and Mr. G. J. Snelus. In each case is set forth the problems solved or the discoveries made, with clearness and precision, and yet devoid of technicalities. The book is a good one. It comes from the press of Charles Scribner's Sons.

Natural Law in the Spiritual World:

The volume with the above title, by Henry Drummond, of London, is a most original and ingenious book, instructive and suggestive in the highest degree. Its speculative subtlety is equalled by its extensive range of scientific knowledge, all is permeated by the force and validity of the religious institutions from which the author has made his departure. "First to thyself be true," says Shakespeare; "thou canst not then be false to any man." Mr. Drummond has been faithful to his own religious instincts and perceptions, and they have led him as by a sure and lofty road, along which, without injustice to any, he gathers tribute as he goes. He will regard no man as an enemy, however much he may appear so, or profess to be such; all, in the measure that they are sincere and faithful, he accepts as his helpers, and they must consent to go so far on the way with him. He has been influenced, evidently, by Swedenborg's conception of *correspondences*, by which the natural world is seen to be held in relation to the spiritual—different sides of the shield, in fact, on which precisely the same characters are found to be impressed when looked at from the proper plane, and "in the proper lights." The laws which science has found to be invariably operative in the

realm of nature have their counterparts in the spiritual world, which are also found in the succession of cause and effect. Harmony here, too, proceeds from law, and there is no harsh opposition or exclusion. Environment and conditions go for much, but the necessity of ascension through the grades of environment is more. The mineral becomes a plant, the plant becomes an animal, the animal rises, through grades of development, to soul, and to perception of spiritual things. Death and life, progress, growth, are all rigorously illustrated by analogies—and no fanciful analogies, either—from the natural world. This book is the boldest effort yet made to turn the tables on agnostic science, and to not a few of the arguments agnostics will find it hard to reply. Though it does not profess to come before us in a strict or rigorous logical form, it is, from its own point of view, self-sufficing and complete, and is well worthy of consideration by thoughtful men.

W. F. B. J.

The Foreign Eclectic:

A new enterprise in magazine literature has just been attempted in Philadelphia. It is a monthly called *The Foreign Eclectic*. It is composed of selections from European periodicals in the French and German languages. It can be taken separately, those who read only French can take the French part without the German, or those who read only German can take the German part without the French; or the complete work comprising both languages can be taken. The first number comprises selections from the following periodicals: *Revue des Deux Mondes*; *L'Univers illustré*; *Le Monde illustré*; *La Nouvelle Revue*; *Le Journal illustré*; *Courrier de l'Art*; *La Famille*; *L'Illustration*; *Vom Fels zum Meer*; *Der Zeitgenosse*; *Deutsche Rundschau*; *Bibliothek der Unterhaltung*; *Deutsches Familienblatt*; *Illustrirte Zeitung*; *Bibliothek der Unterhaltung*; *Illustrirte Welt*. Mr. Rider will take subscriptions.

Odd Things in Names: .

Who but Ned Carr, the efficient clerk in the Providence post office, would have guessed that the letter addressed to *Bebe & Arknight* was intended for the eminent firm B. B. & R. Knight? or that *Whervey Ocks* was meant for Hugh Hawkes, or that *Rentum* stood for Wrentham, and *Hark Had* for the Arcade?

Some years since, a firm planted in the Westminster sidewalk a sign cut in marble bearing the names Stone & Benner. George Thurber, walking over it, said to his companion, "I see no reason for the latter part of that name." "Why not?" said his companion. "Because," said Thurber, "it is plain that's a stone, and its always been it." Everybody has heard of the

firm Ketchum & Cheatham, but how many know that there is really such a firm in business in Providence. Not long since there was a firm Waite & Fry,—they were not in the restaurant business. It was a curious circumstance that a Rider and a Walker should meet in a stationery store. What more appropriate business could there be for *Swallow* than to keep an ale house. The keeping of a *Dye* house in the same building with an undertaker, as was the case on Broad street, was always suggestive of convenience. Another very respectable firm in Providence was Read & Work, they ought to have been booksellers, for these two words represent the pursuit and the reward of the occupation.

Vestigia:

This excellent novel by George Fleming, otherwise Miss Julia Fletcher, is a real success. It will add very much to Miss Fletcher's reputation as a writer in the field of fiction. Dino de Rossi, a young Italian, becomes a member of a secret political society, by means of which connection he is led into a conspiracy to assassinate the king. The king, however, escapes, and so likewise does Dino; but it was by a slender chance. Italia, the heroine, was indeed a very charming young woman. If Dino had done nothing worse than falling in love with her it wouldn't have been so *very* bad—she was really lovely—but he fired a bullet at the king. The story is an exceedingly clever one, not the least of its merits being that it is clear of that sensuality which is the bane of modern fiction. Roberts Brothers publish it.

Alfred (Lord) Tennyson's New Book:

The first of Lord Tennyson's books, issued by his new publishers, Messrs. Macmillan & Co., is entitled *The Cup, and the Falcon*. These are two dramas; the first, the *Cup*, was first produced at the Lyceum Theatre, London, January 3, 1881. Mr. Henry Irving played "Synorix," an ex-Tetrarch, and Miss Ellen Terry played "Cauma," the wife of "Sinnatus." The scene is in Galatia. The second drama, the *Falcon*, was first produced at the St. James Theatre, December, 1879. Mr. Kendal took the leading part, "Count Alberighi." The little book is beautifully printed.

The BOOK NOTES, No. 22, contained a notice of the *Cruise of the Alert*, a fine English book. It was a voyage in southern latitudes. The "Alert" is the ship which reached the farthest northern point yet reached by man, and she is the ship just given by the British government to the United States.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY.
Price 50 cts. per annum.

— SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1884. —

{ 2000 COPIES.
(No. 27.) }

The Shows which Our Grandfathers Attended a Half Century Ago:

There is more instruction in studying the festivals or games or amusements of a people than would at first sight appear. Let him who doubts this consult the pages of Strutt or of Hone, and he will be quickly cured of his error. Here in Rhode Island, since the people held no festivals nor played games, the BOOK NOTES will be restricted to some of their amusements. Half a century since, the annual Mecca of all pleasure-seekers was the Pawtuxet cattle-shows and Fairs. The general musters and Commencement days were likewise attractions; occasional theatrical plays, and now and then a Psalterian concert was about all they had. Occasionally a curious operator came along. Such a one was Maelzel.

Maelzel is best known as the inventor of the famous automaton chess player. He was also the inventor of the "Burning of Moscow," a diorama exhibition, in which automata are introduced. He was likewise the inventor of the Automaton Bass Fiddler, the Automaton Rope Dancers and the Automaton Speaking Figures. Mr. Maelzel came to Providence in October, 1828, for the first time with these figures and with the Burning of Moscow. He came again in 1835, and many times in subsequent years. The first account of the Chess Player in Providence is in the *Manufacturers and Farmers' Journal*, February 16, 1837. While on this subject of amusements it may not be amiss to mention a few others. It was in 1835 that the old Tin Top Meeting House on the corner of Pine and Richmond streets was fitted up as a circus. It was called the Olympic Circus. It was not a success. The annual visitants of that kind being about all that the public would sustain, so it was given up as a circus and elevated to a brewery, which to a recent day it remained. Jenks' Museum was during these same years a standing place of amusement. Here came the learned and industrious fleas. What truth there was in the contemporaneous accounts of this strange exhibition we know not. They tell of harnessing a couple of these diminutive insects to a carriage,

another couple enter the carriage for a drive, a coachman in livery mounts the box, and off they all go. Mahy and strange were the tales they told, but none more curious than this one. It was in August, 1835 that Joice Heth made her first visit to Providence. She was announced as a native of Madagascar, born in 1674, brought to this country and sold into slavery to Augustine Washington, the father of the Father of his Country. The *Journal* has a double leaded editorial vouching for her antiquity, and supplying us with a few facts not elsewhere so accessible. It says Joice rejoiced in having been the mother of fifteen children, the youngest of whom died two years previously at the infantile age of 116 years. No mention is made of the death of the others, they must, therefore, have been alive. That she had been baptised in the Potomac a hundred and sixteen years since, and was still a member of a Baptist church in Virginia. This would make her baptism in 1729, at which time no such body as a Baptist church existed in Virginia. Just think of the amount of credulity which these people presumed to be in the people. In February, 1828, a young Right whale was captured off the north end of Conanicut; seven parties were out after the animal, or fish. The lucky boat was laid alongside by Oliver Potter, and Tom White threw the harpoon. The whale was drawn out of water upon the marine railway, and tickets of admission were sold by Mr. Earl Carpenter. The first visit of the Siamese Twins to Providence was made in September, 1829. They were in the Franklin House for a couple of days. They had but recently arrived in Boston in the ship Sachem. Dr. David B. Slack published a very amusing account of them. These boys attracted great attention at once among the scientific people of the time. In 1833 there came to Providence a mysterious musician who styled himself the "Wandering Piper." There is a letter in the files of the city clerk from him. It is a beautifully written epistle, both as to the style of composition and the penmanship. There is vastly more curiosity in the Papers as to the identity of this individual than there is with regard to Janus, or the Man with the Iron Mask. Exhibitions

were frequently given in the rooms on the second floor of the Arcade. In one of these rooms the Plates of Audubon's Birds were exhibited by the Athenæum, at an admission of 25 cents. The set was unbound and had been recently given to the library. Very much pleasant reminiscence might be given by a pursuit of the subject herein sketched.

The New Edition of Boswell:

Mr. Alexander Napier, vicar of Holkham, is the new editor of Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, just issued by George Bell & Sons, of London. Messrs. Lippincott & Co. have imported an edition for the American market. The new edition is in five volumes, octavo, beautifully printed, with large, clear type, and illustrated with the beautiful engravings by Finden which were first used in the duodecimo edition of 1835. The occasion of the publication of a new edition of this celebrated life, is not an improper one upon which to give a review of former editions. Mr. Boswell first published the *Life of Johnson* in two quarto volumes in 1791. He himself superintended the publication of the first three editions, but he died in 1795, just before the issue of the third edition. Following Boswell, came Malone, as editor. Mr. Malone edited the next three editions. Mr. Malone died in 1812, and from that time until the issue by Mr. Croker of his edition in 1831, there was little or no change in editions. That known as the Oxford English classic edition, which was first published in 1826, edited by Walesly, forms no exception to our statement, notwithstanding it has latterly been regarded as the best. On the publication of Mr. Croker's edition, it received very severe attacks on all sides by the critics. Mr. Macaulay's severe review is a fair specimen, which must be familiar to most readers. Notwithstanding these attacks, for half a century Mr. Croker's edition has continued to be the one mainly used, although it has never satisfied the lovers of sound literature. The faults which were blemishes in the pages of Croker, it has been the attempt of Mr. Napier to correct in the present issue. To restore Boswell's *Life* to the condition in which Boswell left it, or in other words to give a pure text, with such of the editorial notes of all the different authors as were worthy of preservation, each signed by the name of its author, has been the work of Mr. Napier. But to all this learning he has added very much of his own. To what extent he has excelled his predecessors we must leave the public to judge. One more addition which he has made deserves mention. He has added a section to the last volume, *Johnsoniana*. It is the *Diary of Dr. Thomas Campbell*. This *Diary* the editor thinks not less valuable than are the anecdotes of Mrs. Piozzi. The *BOOK NOTES* commends this admirable book to all lovers of good books.

Literary Notes:

Not long since a Boston publisher announced the publication of a novel as a work of the *reverend imagination* of its author. Just now another publisher announces a "novel, or novelette, as its *gifted creator* calls it." The use of such terms for such purposes is simply shocking to sensitive people, and repulsive to common sense. Just think of the gifted creator of a novel, the duration of the life of which will be possibly about four weeks, after which time its name, even, will be unknown to all, save to its writer, its publisher, and a few antiquarian booksellers.

Among the new books may be mentioned Bancroft's *History of the United States*, volume four of the new issue. This is by far the best edition. It will supercede all former editions.—A new novel by a new writer, Mr. Hugh Conway, appears in Messrs. Holt & Co.'s *Leisure Hour Series*. Its name is *Called Back*, and twenty-five cents cannot be invested in a better new novel.—Osgood & Co. publish a new novel by Mrs. Lincoln, the author of a *Washington Winter*. Its name is *Her Washington Season*. It is more, on the same subject as her former book.—The *Historical Monuments of France*, by Mr. James F. Hinnewell, promises to be a very interesting book. It purports to give careful, detailed accounts of the Cathedrais, Abbeys, Castles, and Palaces of France, in which accounts will be combined the historical, the artistic, and the picturesque aspects of each. Numerous heliotype engravings assist the reader in understanding the text. To use the term *engraving* in connection with what is called a heliotype picture, seems at first to be misuse of terms. To engrave means to cut into; but if an impression can be engraved upon the mind, why cannot the sun engrave an impression upon the gelatine, from which these pretty pictures are printed?—Mr. W. L. Carpenter has recently published a small book, on a great subject, *Energy in Nature*. The object of the writer is to give, in simple and untechnical language, further illustrations of the great principle now known as the *Conservation of Energy*. It is a book to instruct and interest unscientific people. Mr. W. L. Carpenter is a son of the very learned doctor who visited Providence a few months since.—The Duke of Argyll's new book, the *Unity of Nature*, is a continuation of his former study, the *Reign of Law*. The American edition is published by the Putnam's.

The publisher of these *BOOK NOTES* has recently received from the eminent house of Frederick Muller & Co., of Amsterdam, a catalogue of *Engraved Portraits*, with prices affixed, which the firm offer for sale. Orders will be executed by the publisher.

The Use of Punctuation:

Few people realize the importance of punctuation, and its necessity as a means of understanding the meaning of writers. The most careful writers furnish abundant specimens. Here is one from Hamerton's *Intellectual Life*, (Roberts Brothers). "The old clothes that we wear no longer may give comfort and confidence to a man in naked destitution." The meaning of this sentence is completely reversed by the placing of a comma. Place it after wear, and the old clothes give no comfort. Place it after longer, and the old clothes give comfort. Other instances are given in a *New Complete Rhetoric*, by Mr. C. W. Bardeen, just issued by A. S. Barnes & Co. Here are a few of them. "He said I could not make mince pies like his mother." "Wanted, a man to fit boots of a good moral character." "The barber was shot while shaving a man with a double barrelled pistol." Of course these are very clumsy sentences, but they illustrate the importance of punctuation, for they can be understood by the addition of a comma. "I don't want your paper any longer," wrote an angry subscriber. "I wouldn't make it any longer if you did," replied the editor. The *BOOK NOTES* notices a contribution to this new *Rhetoric* by Mr. T. J. Morgan, the recently appointed Principal of the Rhode Island Normal School. It is the section relating to the method of biographical study. It sets forth in order, first, what may be considered *sources* of information; and second, what may be considered as *side light sources*; and lastly, he tells us how to arrange our materials so as to present a clear and succinct account of our subject. This short but excellent order of study would simplify the labors of many writers, if they would give heed to its counsel. A sentence which has been suggested to the *BOOK NOTES* reads thus: "Captain Brown going to sea his wife desires the prayers of the church." The meaning of this sentence does not quite turn upon a question of punctuation. It is rather a pun on the word sea. Another which has been suggested is that from Hamlet. "There's adivinity which shapes our ends rough-hew them how we will." The comma follows ends. If placed after rough, the sense is very much changed. But rough-hew is a compound word, and cannot be separated. Another curious sentence which caused a great discussion not long ago was this: "If Moses was the son of Pharaoh's daughter then he was the daughter of Pharaoh's son." This paradoxical sentence means something, or nothing, as one uses the comma. While on this subject the *BOOK NOTES* commends very highly the excellent little treatise on Punctuation by Mr. Wigelow, published by Lee & Shepard. It is concise. It is at a low price. It is good. The system of punctuation now in use grew out of the

art of printing. But the earlier printed books, even those printed with movable types, bore no punctuation marks. The system began to develop even before the days (1485) of Aldus Manutius, the great Venetian printer. But he and his family did much to develop it.

Domestic Life in Japan:

The kimono, a sort of long dress opening in front, is the principal garment of both sexes. It is fastened around the waist with a belt, more or less broad. These belts worn by the ladies are magnificent, frequently a foot wide, and tied at the back with butterfly knots. The kimono has pockets in the elbows. The Japanese wear no shirts, or other body linen. They are nevertheless among the most cleanly people in the world. Both sexes wear socks, in which a place is made separately for the great toe. This is so, for the purpose of passing a strap between it and the other toes for the object of fastening the sandal to the foot. Japanese parasols are thrust aside by the introduction of European umbrellas. The hair management of a Japanese lady would excite the envy and admiration of any European. It is positively beautiful. Their houses are very poor, cheaply built, with no cellars, scarcely any protection against bad weather, and little or no privacy or seclusion. The best rooms are at the back of the house. They have neither chairs, tables, nor beds, nor scarcely any other articles which by our people are considered necessary in housekeeping. These interesting details are gathered from Mr. Rein's admirable book on Japan, which Messrs. A. C. Armstrong have just published.

The Queen's Book:

This most extraordinary publication has been issued in this country by the Harpers in their Franklin Square Library, and also in a neat duodecimo edition, with illustrations. The price of this latter edition being but 25 cents, must inevitably insure a large sale. Innumerable, and almost endless, are the reviews of this book in the English journals; albeit they are generally kindly. It is after all simply a question of taste. Victoria has stepped out of her queenly office to take the public into her domestic circle. Exceedingly simple is the tale she tells. You may say that you, in her place, would never do such a thing. But that is no reason why she should not do it. Her people will learn that their Queen leads, with her family, a domestic life, just like themselves, and they will be interested, and properly interested, too, in its details as the Queen has here written them. There is nothing like it in all the writings of Kings and Queens of the past.

Study and Stimulants:

This curious book gives 132 communications from as many well known living, or recently living, men of letters, and men of science, on the use of intoxicants and narcotics in connection with intellectual pursuits. Many of the letters are very amusing, more especially that by Mark Twain. Here are letters by Matthew Arnold, Professor Blackie, Wilkie Collins, Charles Darwin, Professor Dowden, Archdeacon Farrar, E. A. Freeman, Mr. Fronde, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Hamerton, Mr. Lecky, Dr. Martineau, Prof. Rawlinson, Charles Reade, John Ruskin, Prof. Skeat, Mr. Taine, Mr. Trollope, Prof. Tyndall, and many other well known English, American and French literary men, and one woman. Having gathered all these testimonies, Mr. Arthur Reade sums them up in a conclusion, in which he reaches the following results:

1st. Alcohol and tobacco are of no value to a healthy student.

2nd. That the most vigorous thinkers and hardest workers abstain from both stimulants.

3rd. Those who have tried both moderation and total abstinence, find the latter the more healthful.

4th. That every brain worker would be better for abstinence.

5th. That the most abstruse calculations may be made, and the most laborious mental work performed, without artificial stimulants.

6th. That all work done under the influence of alcohol is unhealthy work.

7th. That the only pure brain stimulants are external ones—fresh air—cold water.

It is beyond question, that a walk over the hills in the country is the greatest rest for a tired brain. A stretch of a mile along the city sidewalks counts for nothing. Get a good large pair of boots, ride out on the railroad to Lonsdale, and walk back into town by Quinsuket, and by the Messrs. Sayles' Model village. Stop and talk with the people, but don't chaff them. Leave all nonsense in town. That's rest for a sensible, but tired brain worker.

Hellerism, or Second Sight:

The Second Sight Mystery, which so astonished and delighted every audience which saw it, was the invention of Robert Houdin. But Mr. Heller was its first and most successful exponent in this country. Messrs. Lee & Shepard have just published a little book by Mr. Harry Hermon, which its author claims is a complete *expose* of the illusion, and is, moreover, a complete manual for teaching this occult art. According to Mr. Hermon, it is simply a thing of acquirement, just as one would acquire a knowledge of a language. The little book makes very interesting reading.

Mr. Percy Greg's New Book:

Those who read the famous book by Mr. Percy Greg, the *Devil's Advocate*, will most surely desire to see his later essay, *Without God*, as he calls it. They need not be told that Mr. Greg is a pessimist. He is one who sees nothing in the nature of things to prove that progress is the constant and certain law of human society. He sees in the present temper of the democracy in Europe, envy of wealth, jealousy of intelligence, antipathy to an intellectual, even more than to an hereditary aristocracy. All these seem to threaten property, leisure, and education, with serious danger. But worse than all these he sees in the present tendencies of opinion great danger to morality, more real, more subtle, more certain, more immediate than the danger to property. Mr. Greg believes there can be no morality without religion, nor any religion without God. Let us hope that these views of Mr. Greg are not like the warnings of Cassandra, disbelieved by men, while they are really true. (The first paragraph above further illustrates the necessity of punctuation. Take the comma which follows Greg away, and the sense is somewhat modified.)

Lord Tennyson's Poems:

The new publishers of Tennyson's Poems, Macmillan & Co., have well begun their work, by the issue of a new edition, in a single duodecimo volume, containing 640 pages, printed in large new type, and corrected throughout by Lord Tennyson himself. Into this volume the author has incorporated a few of his poems, which have not appeared in any edition since 1832, more than half a century. These are, therefore, entirely new to the present generation of readers, and there are many of them. This edition is as much superior to any other single volume edition, as it is possible to conceive; and not only is it much better, but it costs much less in money. A fine portrait engraved, by Stodart, has been added. The Lover's Tale, which was pirated a few years ago, is here reproduced, and with it, its sequel, the Golden Supper, a work of the author's mature years.

The BOOK NOTES has made two errors of statement which have been pointed out. The BOOK NOTES desires to correct them. The first was, the locality Nine Men's Misery, as given in No. 24. It was there given as Lincoln; it is in Cumberland. This was through inadvertence. The second was, that the birthplace of Dr. Arnold, the Greek scholar, as given in No. 25, was Warwick; it is in Cranston. This was a pure blunder. For these corrections the BOOK NOTES is thankful; it will always correct its errors; it neither gives nor takes quarter; it asks no mercy.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17 WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY.
Price 50 cts. per annum.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1881.

{ 2000 COPIES.
(No. 28.)

Familiar Songs for Our Evening Firesides:

Messrs. Harper & Brothers have just published a second number of their Franklin Square Song collection. It contains two hundred pieces of music, which, sold in the ordinary way, at forty cents each, would cost eighty dollars. In this neat pamphlet the whole can be had for fifty cents. Each piece is so arranged that no leaf need be turned to finish it, and with each is a little text, either explanatory of it, or kindred to it; thus the little book contains very much interesting musical reading. Here may be found the old school songs which we used to sing so lustily, for instance, *Scorband's Earning*, which was always so impressive to us from the delicate tenderness with which the voices of the boys come in at the words *Fire, Fire, Fire, Fire*. Then there was *Jeannette and Jeannot*, which was such a shortener of the way home, whistling as we went. Here, too, are the ancient Hymns, whose sweet, sad melodies have been the solace of many a weary heart, from the days when the morning stars sang together even unto now. Here are the Songs of our Country, and even the songs for the little ones at home are not forgotten. Buy the little book, and let your sons and daughters try it as your sit beside the hearthstone. *Apropos*, Messrs. Frederick Warne & Co., of London, have just issued a new and enlarged edition of a very useful little manual for those who practice singing, or who desire to do so. Its title is *Advice to Singers*. Its author seeks to impart useful information to those who need it, hence he treats upon facial expression, self-accompaniment, position of the body, the arms and hands, the lips, and action of the throat, pronunciation, study of words, quality of voices, duration of practice, style, the selection of music to suit the voice, and a hundred other matters which pertain to this delightful exercise,—an exercise which, as Longfellow has told us, finds its way to the heart with wonderful alacrity.

THE *Spectator* has an admirable article commending *Treasure Island*, by Mr. Stevenson. It says there is not a dull page, not even a dull line, in it. THE BOOK NOTES think so too. The book is good for boys and girls.

A Dictionary of the Roman Catholic Church:

In the publication of a Catholic Dictionary, by Messrs. William E. Adkins and Thomas Arnold, a want has been supplied which English readers have long felt. The only dictionaries touching on these matters, recently accessible, have been Hook's Church Dictionary, or Blunt's Dictionary of Theology. Both these works were compiled by Protestants, and were more or less open to objections to Catholics. Smith's Dictionaries are not indeed open to this objection, but they are voluminous, and beyond the reach of many people. But beyond this, a book bearing the imprimatur of Cardinal Manning, as this one does, carries a guarantee of its authority and integrity, which must make it a welcome companion, not only to all good Catholics, but to every scholar. Here can be read in clear and unmistakable terms the claims of this church in all spiritual matters; under the articles on the Church of Christ, and on the Pope, can be read the Dogmas which this Church has held from even its earliest to these latest times; so under the Immaculate Conception, which every body has heard about, but which few understand. So likewise with the Inquisition, for which the same authority is maintained that Torquemada may be supposed to have maintained in 1483. That which was right in 1483 must be right in 1881, for right is inmutable. But opinionous change if the Church does not, and men in these days scarcely submit to a secret court such as that over which Torquemada presided for fifteen years, in which short period some writers claim that he condemned and punished ninety-eight thousand persons. Not a very dilatory court that. The present volume does indeed contain some criticism on the statements of Llorente, the secretary of the court, and whose History has been the chief modern reliance. Llorente states that the Spanish Inquisition during its entire existence of 329 years, condemned and executed 50,000 persons. The book is an excellent, inexpensive handbook, to all knowledge concerning the Roman Catholic Church, under the authority of the Church itself, and as such will be of great interest and great use.

The Entertainments which Our Fathers and Mothers Attended:

As a continuation of the subject of Shows which our Grandfathers and Grandmothers Attended, the BOOK NOTES herin gives a resume of exhibitions and entertainments in Westminster Hall between the years 1811-1859.

By the courtesy of Mr. Charles Sabin, the BOOK NOTES has had access to the original records of entertainments in Westminster Hall, then owned by his father, and now by himself. The hall was opened for the first time on the evening of October 20, 1811, by Mr. W. R. Dempster, who came thereafter frequently. He was a ballad singer. A few days later Mrs. Mowatt gave dramatic readings. On the evenings of the 12th, 20th, and 26th of January, 1812, Mr. Walter R. Danforth gave his reminiscences of Providence, a very small portion of which has recently been published in the newspapers. In November, 1812, came John Quincy Adams with a lecture on the Social Compact. Abraham Payne, on the evening of December 12, delivered a lecture on Queen Anne, which for forty years has been a favorite subject with him. Among the speakers of this time were Richard H. Dana, Jr., John Neal, Henry Giles, Romeo Elton, O. A. Brownson, Leroy Sunderland, George H. Hill, alias Yankee Hill; and N. P. Banks who came to address the people on the Tragedy and Comedy of Shakespeare. During all these months Rev. Thomas T. Waterman preached in the hall on Sundays.

On the 15th June, 1813, the city occupied the Hall for the reception of President Tyler. The Hutchinson family were frequent visitors. The Franklin Lyceum Lectures were delivered there. Charles Burnett and Thomas L. Darnell brought Emerson here, and also Henry Giles, for many lectures. October 21, 1814, came the Campanologian Bell Ringers. John B. Gough spoke in the evening of November 1st. Ole Bull came November 14th. On the evening of November 18, Mr. Edward R. Bohuszewicz, a Polish musician, who sleeps now at Swan Point, gave his first concert. He was a gentleman, and moreover a favorite with the best people. Joe Greene, with the American Brass Band, was frequently here with concerts. In April, and May, 1815, Mr. Hudson delivered his Lectures on Shakespeare. In December, 1815, Fletcher Webster delivered two lectures on China and the Chinese. George Bush delivered several lectures on Swedenborg. Charles Sumner came on the 25th of February, 1816. Signor Blitz came for the first time for six evenings in October, 1816. Dec. 7th, the Handel & Haydn Society gave the Oratorio of David. July 1st, 1817, Sherwood Stratton used the hall for Gen. Tom Thumb. Herz & Sivori gave concerts August 25, and October 26, 1817. November 1st, Samuel Lover gave his *Sprigs of Shillala*. The

Seguin Operatic Troupe came in 1817, as did Signorina Biscaccante. Prof. Wine's lectures on the Ancient Hebrew Laws. The Steyermarkische Company gave many concerts. In April, 1818, came the Germania Society with 26 instruments. Tadeseo was here on 30th of the same month. On the 13th and 14th June, Fanny Kemble Butler gave Shakespearean Readings. Three times in October, 1819, the hall was used by William Whipple Brown for meetings for the company going to California on the bark *Walter*. During these years Samuel W. Wheeler used the hall for Peace Conventions; Walter R. Danforth for Free Soil meetings; Amaranth Paine, for Anti-Slavery meetings, and Joseph J. Cooke, for lectures on Fourier's Doctrines. In 1856, the *Museum* was ready for use, and many entertainments which had been given in Westminster Hall thenceforward were given at the *Museum*, which, in its turn flourished and died. Nothing like a complete record has been given, only those which were most marked. Many a note Mr. Sabin added to his accounts which interests us, as to the success or quality of the entertainments. In many a case the pecuniary risk fell mainly on the owner of the hall. Tasistro came here with three lectures for which Mr. Sabin records the receipt of three notes which were never paid. Poor Tasistro is still asking alms. The following letter from a valued friend of the BOOK NOTES further illustrates the article in number 27:

Editor of the Book Notes:

DEAR SIR:—In BOOK NOTES, issue of March 15th, in the article on the "Shows which Our Grandfathers Attended Half Century Ago," mention is made of the "Young Right Whale," exhibited in Providence in 1828. I visited this "leviathan of the deep" when it was laid upon the marine railway, then located at the foot of South Water street, in the vicinity of Carriington's wharf. Joshua H. Work, now a veteran tailor of Providence, was selling tickets for admission in a little shanty near by, and the "Tom White," who threw the harpoon, as related, was in attendance to explain to visitors the mode of capture, and other particulars incident to whaling. Three years later, in 1831, I was a co-worker with Tom, at Newport, and the subject of the whale capture was a theme of frequent conversation. Tom and a Mr. Gifford seemed to be the heroes of the exploit, and in some doggerel verses then in vogue, occurred the following:

"When Thomas White first struck the whale,
Down went his head, up went his tail,
And Gifford cried 'Stern all!'"

Gifford's ejaculation being designed to overcome the downward tendency of the bow of the boat by the struggling of the whale. A. H.

CALLED BACK, is a very pretty novel; the demand in England reached 25,000 copies, before we had even heard its name mentioned.

Six Centuries of Work and Wages in England:

There has just been published in England a work on the *History of English Labour*, by Professor James E. Horold Rogers, M. P., of the profoundest character. This writer is a Professor at Oxford, he is also a member of Parliament. Thus he unites in one person the doctrinaire with the politician. Some idea of the scope of this great book can be had from its title, which is *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*. During all these tedious centuries, this painstaking and laborious scholar undertakes to tell you the exact purchasing power of the wages of labour, which he further informs you was a bare subsistence for the labourer, which subsistence was obliged continually to be supplemented with rates for the poor. This fearful condition of things, the pauperism, and degradation of the English labourer, (he not only says, but) he *shows*, was the direct result of a series of acts of Parliament, and acts of the Government, designed for the express purpose of compelling the labourer to work at the lowest rate of wages possible, and which succeeded at last in effecting that purpose. These laws are named, and described, and their effects set forth, in such terms that he who runs may read. And although many of their worst features have been obliged to give way before the advancing intelligence of men, yet many bad features remain, and their terrible effects are apparent in every hamlet in England. Among the most terrible of these laws, was the horrible law of Parcellal settlement, the laws of wages, the laws of distinction between real and personal estate, the laws of settlement of lands, the laws of Primogeniture, the Laws of Registration of Titles, among many others. But not the least of which, were the Corn Laws, which maled the laborer of half his wages, just as in these United States do the Protective Tariffs in these days. There must be hope for man when one of their number fearlessly sends forth such a book as this wherein he says, "he has traced the causes which brought about the misery and degradation of men to acts, and to persons, which are historical, and that the process of restoration is retarded by privileges, and practices which are still dominant; privileges and practices which, unless they are relinquished and abandoned, will give occasion in England (a country which has hitherto been free from it) for a growth of communism which finds its origin and its apology in the injury which the many suffer at the hands of the few. The mass of persons in England take a languid interest in political action, and they have reason to believe that politics are a mere game of two hereditary and privileged parties in which it signifies little which gets a temporary ascendancy. They are

convinced of the hollowness of political cries, and that public service is a phrase by which politicians mean private advantage." There are indeed symptoms of health in such language as that is, language which in the end will take deep hold in the minds of men.

Indian Myths, Legends and Traditions:

This book, by Ellen Russell Emerson, is an attempt to compare the Myths, Legends, and Traditions, or that which we now call Folk Lore, of the Aborigines of America, the Dakotas and the Mohawks, the Choctaws and the Senecas, the Ojibways and the Natchez, the Zuni and other Mexican tribes, with the Folk Lore of ancient eastern countries, such, for instance as China, Persia, Egypt and Hindoostan.

Each attribute of Nature is treated in a separate chapter, in which the aboriginal American ideas are compared with those of the ancient Asiatic and European races. Among these themes are, The Breath Master, The Four Spirits of the Winds, The Serpent, Star-Worship, The Sun, The Earth and the Moon, The Origin of Man, The Origin of Evil, The Evil Spirit, Legends of the Deed, Transmigration, Transformation, Rites and Symbols, Language, Pictography, The Deluge, and other hundreds of marvellous legends and traditions.

It has always been an enigma, whence came the people upon these western continents, densely populated as they were when Columbus first saw them. If Atlantis, which was mythological when Plato wrote, four hundred years before the time of Christ, ever had a real existence, we might account for them. Now, why may we not find in careful comparative studies of the legends of these distinct and separate people tracings of their descent, as clear, as distinct, as unmistakable, as may be found in the forms of their earthen ware, or in their manipulations of metals. Two people, utterly and completely separate, would not more likely invent the same story, than they would invent the same form of vase, or construct similar buildings. The workings of the human mind is as clearly discernible as is the cunning handiwork of human fingers. This book is a step in a new direction and a good one. Osgood & Co. are its publishers.

THE excellent friend of the BOOK NOTES, Mr. J. Warren Gardner, the enterprising publisher of the Rhode Island Telephone (the name of which has been recently changed to *The Westerly News*) continues his contributions of Local History to his paper in Chapters on the Narragansett Indians. There are people here, in Providence, who would take pleasure in these articles, if they only knew it, and the publisher of these BOOK NOTES will remit for them the dollar a year necessary to secure this pleasure.

The Life of Peter the Great:

Mr. Eugene Schuyler's Study in Historical Biography, *Peter the Great*, is a truly magnificent production. It is in two superbly illustrated volumes from the house of Charles Scribner's Sons. Peter became the Autocrat of Russia in 1689. He died in 1725. He was a man of great genius, notwithstanding he was a barbarian tyrant. For the first time a good life of this great monarch is at the service of English readers. Hitherto Barrow's *Life*, or Abbott's *History* was about all that one could get, separate from general history. Having excellent personal acquaintance in Russia, and a thorough knowledge of the language, Mr. Schuyler's opportunities were good and he has used them well. The leading events in the life of Peter have been well known. His travels in France, England and Germany. His ship-building apprenticeship. His terrible wars with Turkey, and with Charles XII. His building of St. Petersburg—but nowhere have these events been as fully treated as in these volumes. One of the most interesting chapters relates to the visit of Peter to London to study ship-building. Here, while at Deptford, he occupied the house of John Evelyn, the grounds about which had been for forty-five years under process of improvement by this distinguished lover of nature. It is painful to read of Evelyn's sorrow at the ruin of a superb holly hedge which was the pride of the neighborhood, by Peter's running a wheelbarrow through it. Peter died in 1725, of an inflammation. The immediate cause was his leaping into a cold November sea to save the lives of some sailors. The sailors were saved, but Peter was lost. The book is by far the most valuable historical biography which has been published for a long time.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE comes to us for April, a work of Art and a work of Literature combined. In it there is an article on the Second War for Independence, (the war of 1812), in which the main cause of the war Impressment is vividly set forth. No mention is made in the article of the action of Rhode Island in the case of the British ship *Nauticus*, at Newport, in 1791, on which occasion the State authorities liberated six American seamen, who had been impressed, the full details of which were set forth in these BOOK NOTES, No. 7, (July 7, 1883). It would have been infinitely proper in such an article to make mention of the first authentic case of resistance.

THE Hon. Richard A. Wheeler, of Stonington, delivered an excellent historical address at the re-union of the Palmer Family in 1881. It has just been printed at Westerly. A learned monograph on the Pequot Indians was published by this enthusiastic antiquarian in 1880.

SCHLIEMAN'S TROJA meets with a severe review in the *Spectator* of the current week. He is complimented as a digger and denounced as a scholar.

Don Quixote and Irving and Gil Blas, almost without Price:

The copyright having expired under which Irving's works have so long been held, every lover of these beautiful writings, be he as poor as poverty herself, can now own them. The editions of course are not for bibliomaniacs, but they will do well enough for ordinary mortals.—So it is with *Don Quixote*. Now the best translation of this classic, is that by Motteux, and the best edition of this translation is that which Mr. Lockhart edited. Lockhart's Notes have come to be about as classic as the novel itself. The best issue of this book came from Boston. It is in four volumes, and is just now like Irving's works, being sold for almost nothing. About the only sensible thing that *Don Quixote* did was to sell his broad acres, and buy books. Had it not been for this exchange, the worthy Knight would have been lost in the general oblivion, and the world would have lost one of its chief literary treasures. Go thou, reader, and do likewise.

The Ideas of the Apostle Paul:

There are three characters, who flourished at or near the beginning of the Christian Era, whose minds and labors have furnished themes for almost boundless study, and contemplation, to all men who have followed them. Those characters are Jesus Christ, St. Paul and Cicero, himself albeit a Pagan. Under the skillful handling of an acute, trained mind like that possessed by Mr. Lewin, or the scholarly devotion of men like Conybeare and Howson, it would seem that little would be left concerning St. Paul for future writers to deal with. Such, however, is not the case, and therefore when a writer like James Freeman Clarke takes St. Paul for his subject, thousands of readers at once resume the old study. There is no living writer whose contributions to modern religious thought are more eagerly sought, or more highly prized, than are those of Mr. Clarke. His work on the *Events and Epochs in Religious History* at once took its place among the books which come to us, to stay with us. So likewise did his *Ten Great Religions*, edition after edition has been called for. His more recent book, *Self Culture*, is an excellent book of directions, suggestions, and encouragement to every tired and straggling mortal; and now comes his very latest book, the careful, thoughtful and mature study of his serene old age. *The Ideas of the Apostle Paul*. Here, doubtless, we may see unfolded, the life of one of the greatest men, in the middle distance of antiquity, by an erudite and skillful writer, of clear, direct, and vigorous English. What more can a man of intelligence ask than a union of such powers, on such a subject. Messrs. Osgood & Co. are its publishers.

BOOK NOTES

For the week.

HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

NO. 17, WESTMINSTER STREET, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

ISSUED FORTNIGHTLY. }
Price 50 cts. per annum. }

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1884.

{ 2000 COPIES.
(No. 29.) }

Not Like Other Girls:

Mrs. Challoner's three daughters may be thus described: Nan, the eldest, was the prettiest, she was tall and lithe as the willow, while her frankness and simplicity of manner was so charming as to be positively dangerous. Then there was Phillis, who was, while not absolutely pretty, awfully good looking, and then she could talk, ye gods! how she could talk. Lastly, there was Dulce. She was eighteen. Her figure was slight, and her movements were nimble. She was one of those whom no one ever noticed whether she was pretty or not. Then there was a friend Mattie Drummond, she was one of seven sisters. Now it was about this Mattie who was *not like other girls*, that the story was written. So the BOOK NOTES has been looking a little into her characteristics. Her mother thought her rather too pretty, but no one else ever thought so. She was a capital housekeeper, full of little contrivances, and economical withal. Her amiability was a marked characteristic, and this in a family with seven sisters and a brother. Now it was to show how all these girls found excellent husbands, and all these husbands found excellent wives, that Miss Cary wrote this pretty love-story, wherein she tells us that Mattie was of the kind that wears well; to be selected, as the Vicar of Wakefield selected a wife, because of her durability. The story is a very clever one. Lippincott & Co. are its publishers.

Kitty's Conquest:

A new novel, by the author of the *Colonel's Daughter*, will be certain to find many readers. Its name is *Kitty's Conquest*, and its author is Charles King, of the U. S. Army. It is a love story of the army, Kitty's conquest comprising a lieutenant, and his equipment. Lieut. Amory was a first class young officer; and Kitty was one of the most charming of women. Each fell in love with the other, but Kitty played a little carelessly with poor Amory, who was reduced to a condition of merciless misery. Fortunately the good old General came to the relief of the enemies, and a touching surrender was followed by a serene and lasting peace. Lippincott & Co. publish it.

The Literature of the Scandinavian North:

There is no publishing house in the United States which has published so many good books of Norse literature as the house of S. C. Griggs & Co., of Chicago. Just now they have a new and most valuable one on the *Literature of the Scandinavian North* by Frederick Winkel Horn. Hitherto English scholars in pursuit of this kind of information, have been confined practically to two treatises, one by William and Mary Howitt on the Literature of the North, and the other a work on Runic Literature by Mitchell. Neither of these works, however, possess anything like the range or the thoroughness of Mr. Horn's work. It is divided into three sections. The first section relates to the Old Norse and Icelandic Literature. The second section relates to Denmark and Norway. The third section relates to Sweden. The intention has been to cover the entire period from the most ancient Icelandic Edda, even to the days of Tegnér's Frithjof's Saga, which even the degenerate booksellers of these days will remember. The author undertakes to tell you who all these people were, and when they lived and died, and he further undertakes to make up a sort of judgment on their works. Mr. Horn's work was translated for English readers by Prof. Anderson, so well known in connection with such work. Included in the same volume is a Bibliography of Scandinavia, by Mr. Thorvald Solberg, an accomplished assistant in the Library of Congress. Mr. Solberg has done very much of such work, and with great excellence. One of our Rhode Island scholars figures in this Bibliography, and not with discredit to his native State. It is Henry Wheaton, whose History of the Northmen is beyond all comparison the best English Treatise upon the subject, and his translation of Crichton's History of Scandinavian, (Harpers, 1838,) which is a less known, but a very good book.

The publisher of these BOOK NOTES wishes to obtain, either by way of exchange for books or by purchase, three hundred second-hand back numbers of *St. Nicholas*. He would also take old numbers of the *Illustrated London News* or the *London Graphic* in exchange.

Recent Books:

Brooke Foss Westcott, Regius Professor of Divinity in Kings College, Cambridge, whom many will remember by his former book on the *Historic Faith*, has just ready a new one, the *Revelation of the Father*. Both are issued by Macmillan.—A new edition of Prof. Cairds' *Philosophy of Religion* has also been issued by the same house.—Prof. Hurst, of the College of New Jersey, has published through the house of Armstrong & Son, a *Treatise on the Principles of Written Discourse*. It is for advanced students of rhetoric, who are supposed to be familiar with elementary treatises before undertaking this one.—Mr. Ferguson's *Surnames as a Science*, has reached a second edition. Such faults as were pointed out have been corrected, and such improvements as were suggested have been adopted.—Mr. William Black has just out three stories for boys, under the name, *Adventures in Thule*.—A timely treatise on *Spinning Woolen and Worsted*, by Mr. McLaren, has recently been published by Carroll & Co.—The *Orations and Speeches of Wendell Phillips* have been re-issued by Lee & Shepard for fifty cents.—An English Vicar, Mr. C. W. Stubbs, has recently written a little book called the *Land and the Labourers*, in which he gives the results obtained from the lands he worked.—By a most singular reconstruction of a bequest made in 1784, by John Burnett, of Aberdeen, a series of Scientific Lectures are to be given during the coming year. The first course of three lectures is on the *Nature of Light*. They were delivered by Mr. G. G. Stokes, a Professor at the University of Cambridge.—A most interesting book about *Ants and their Ways*, is that written by Rev. W. F. White. It is filled with illustrations.—Mr. Rien's *Japan* meets a most flattering reception by critics in all directions, both in England and in the United States.—Mr. Schuyler's *Life of Peter the Great*, will for many years be the leading book upon that monarch. Hitherto those creatures which the world has denominated Great have been mostly barbarians, like Frederick, and Alexander, and Peter, men who were devoid of the amenities of civilized life.—Spring time has come, and now is the time to make the acquaintance of the Birds. There are no better instructors in this knowledge than Mr. Stearn's excellent volumes on *New England Bird Life*, which will give infinite pleasure at small expense.—Mr. Samuel's *Our Northern and Eastern Birds*, is filled with colored plates, which seem in this season to be more desirable than in almost any other.—*A Graveyard Flower* by Miss Von Hillern, is the latest of the translations from the German, which Mr. W. S. Gottsberger is now publishing.—*A Wife Hard Won*, a new, love story, by Julian McNair Wright is among the latest of Lipincott & Co.'s publications.

The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles:

Philothéos Bryennios discovered in Constantinople a manuscript on vellum, consisting of 120 leaves. It comprised Chrysostom's Synopsis of the Bible; an Epistle of Barnabas; Two Epistles of Clement; The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles; an Epistle of Mary of Carso-belae, and Eight Epistles of Ignatius. The time when Bryennios discovered this manuscript has not been stated, but in 1875 he published the Epistles of Clement. Their publication attracted no attention. Recently he has published the entire manuscript in Greek, and a small portion, only four leaves out of the 120 in the volume, comprising the *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* has been re published in this country, both in Greek and in English. Its publication has aroused the greatest interest in the Christian world, and it has been pronounced at once to be the most important book next to the New Testament now in possession of men. The date of the manuscript is A. D. 1056, but it is claimed for the document that it belongs to the second century, certainly between 120 and 160 A. D. Whether that means the present known manuscript is a copy from an earlier unknown copy is not quite clear. In such cases past experience would seem to justify the Christian world in going a little slower. They must not forget the Decretals of Isidore, nor the Letters of Phalaris, nor a list of the spurious books of antiquity which Mr. Liscoomb could supply, so long that the BOOK NOTES could not contain them. Chapter VII, of the *Teaching of the Twelve*, relates to the subject of Baptism, thus "baptize into the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in running water. But if thou hast not running water, baptize in other water; and if thou canst not in cold, then in warm. But if thou hast neither, pour water upon the head thrice, into the name of Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit." The future of this manuscript is beyond conjecture, whether it will ultimately be accepted by men as true and genuine, or rejected by them as false and spurious no man can tell. But of one thing we may be certain and that is that centuries hence men will look back upon the present epoch as being one of the most wonderful in the history of the world so far as the bringing of antiquities to light is concerned.

AN un mutilated reprint of *Peter Wilkins* is at last accessible to the present generation. First published in 1751 it has passed through many editions, mostly however mutilated. A book which was the delight of Lamb, and Coleridge, and Hazlitt, ought to be a pleasure to us. A beautiful reprint is now to be had with fac-similes of the pictures of the romantic flying islanders.

Holmes's History of the Indian Mutiny:

Hitherto those who desired to learn the history of the Indian Mutiny, the revolt of the Sepoys against the English in 1857, the story of Lucknow, of Cawnpore, of Delhi, of Oude, and of the Punjab; of Nana Sahib and Sir Colin Campbell, and Major Hodson, and Captain Havelock, who, as he lay dying at Lucknow, said, "for forty years I have so ruled my life that when death came I might face it without fear." Him we say who has wished to read of these things has been obliged to have recourse to the voluminous work of Colonel Malleson, a work of the greatest value, but much too minute for the general reader of these days. Here in a single volume Mr. Holmes has undertaken to tell the story in a concise way, and drawn altogether from original sources. It was during this revolt that prisoners were blown from the muzzles of cannon by the English. This fact has been denied, and in fact it is not mentioned in this most recent history. But he who is curious in such matters can refer to volume 31, p. 333, *London Illustrated News*, where he will find an account of the hanging of fifty prisoners, and the blowing from cannon of many more. Again, in the same volume, page 523, an illustration will be found of two prisoners lashed to the muzzles of cannon, to be blown to atoms. Their names are given in the accounts, the writers of which assure us that these horrible punishments were in the hands of *human* and *just* men.

The Geology of Rhode Island:

Mr. T. Nelson Dale has published a second monograph on the Geology of Rhode Island. (See Book Notes No. 22.) This second paper covers Newport Neck, the tract between Easton's Beach and Coddington's Cove, a portion of Conanicut, the west shore of the west passage from Plum Beach nearly to Point Judith. Practically the City of Newport and parts of the Town of Jamestown and North and South Kingstown. The two papers thus describe a belt across the lands which border and divide the mouth of Narragansett Bay. Like Mr. Dale's former paper this also has a neatly engraved map. Nothing equal to the thorough carefulness of these studies has before been attempted in the same region.

THE publisher of these BOOK NOTES urges upon the city government the importance of publishing the first records of the Town. They are fast going to decay; multiply copies and they are safe, and can be used. The city has now in its employ a man, Mr. Fred. A. Arnold, entirely competent to do the work, and he ought to be set to the work immediately.

Race Course and Covert Side:

The author of this book, Mr. Alfred Watson, is no new hand at the business, he has told successful stories before. They were such stories as we have always been, and probably shall be, indebted to England for. Stories of the turf, of the field, of fox hunting, and the races. Mr. Watson's style is clear and good, and the reading of such tales as he writes will be probably the extent of our experience in such matters. Here's a day with Tom Cannon; the ladies' day at Epsom; the Derby Centenary; the Merry Harriers; Riding to Hounds, and a host of other just such stories, for which Mr. John Sturgess has made most characteristic sketches.

ONE of the very best articles on *Greene as a European Kingdon* was written by our Rhode Island scholar, the late Rev. Dr. A. N. Arnold. It was printed in the *Bibliotheca Sacra*, for July, 1882.

How I became a Crack Shot, is a most interesting story of his career by W. Milton Farrow, of Newport, the winner of two prizes in England, two prizes in France, and three prizes at Creedmore. In his story Mr. Farrow has incorporated Hints for Beginners.

THE Buckeye Cook Book is one of the most useful manuals of its kind now published. It is an every day book, for poor but honest people. Those receipts which require two dozen eggs, three pounds of butter, and ten cups of sugar for a two quart pan of cake, are omitted.

THE curious fancy for sounding names which afflicted the Town of Providence a half century since, is well set forth in the following notice: "The Union Adelpian Society will meet at the Atrium to discuss the following question, In the formation of individual character, which contributes most, the paternal, or the maternal influence?" The question was altogether too snappy for the place of discussion.

THE publisher of these BOOK NOTES has been waited upon by Mr. Joshua H. Work, whose name appears in a communication by A. H., in connection with the exhibition of the young right whale taken in Narragansett Bay in 1828. Mr. Work informs us he sold tickets two days, the receipts for which were \$1,200, among which there was but a single bad piece of silver, a quarter of a dollar. The writer once sent \$200 in fractional currency to be redeemed by the government, but a single piece, a fifty cent scrip, was returned as counterfeit. About the same time the whale was here there was brought to this town for exhibition, what was called a sea monster. It was captured off Lubec, Maine. The skin was stripped and exhibited. Its dimensions were given as length, 28 feet, circumference 16 feet. It was at Clark's Hotel.

By Paths of Bible Knowledge:

In a little series of books now being published under the general title above, there can be found some very interesting reading. The first contains a history of *Cleopatra's Needle*, which now stands on the bank of the Thames, with pictures and translation of the hieroglyphics cut by Thothmes III., the greatest of the Egyptian Kings. He was king of Egypt about 1,500 years before the time of Christ. This little book contains a most graphic account of the discovery of the body of this great king a few months since in a cave near Thebes. Some account is also given of the discovery in the last year of the site of Pithom, a city founded by Rameses II., who reigned in Egypt about two centuries after Thothmes III., and whose body was recovered at Thebes. This city of Pithom is now being excavated. The second of these little books relates to *Assyrian Life and History*, gathered from the very great collections of Assyrian Antiquities now in the British Museum. The third is entitled *Fresh Light from the Ancient Monuments*. It is more general in its character, although all its sketches are directed towards showing the striking confirmations of the Bible from recent discoveries in Egypt, Assyria, Palestine, Babylonia, and Asia Minor. There is in this book a very interesting account of the discovery of the method of translating the cuneiform character. The first clue was the successful guess of a German scholar, Grotefend. The story of this guess is too long for the *BOOK NOTES*, and the reader must be referred to the book itself, but it is well worth reading. These are excellent little books from which one can quickly gather these stories of olden times.

Frederick Denison Maurice:

This distinguished leader of religious thought died in England on the first of April, 1872. His life, as told mainly in his own letters, has just been published in England, under the editorial care of his son, Mr. Frederick Maurice. These letters were written chiefly to the brothers Hare, Dean Stanley, Charles Kingsley, Dean Trench and other such like Englishmen. Among all our contemporaries there was not a more liberal Christian scholar, nor was there one who kept himself more fully abreast with the spirit of the age. A man of intense earnestness, of high purpose, of unbounded charity, a profoundly spiritual nature, a personally lovely character, whose intellectual gifts were of the highest order. Mr. Maurice was a leader of the Broad church party in the English church. He was an author of many books, of which his *Kingdom of Christ* became the most popular. He was a graduate of Cambridge University and became a Professor of Moral Philosophy in the same. His life is published in this country by Scribner.

The Creators of the Age of Steel:

This is a capital book to give to young men. It is a story of some of the struggles of genius, against force and matter, and the victories which followed. It is biographical mainly, and for this reason is more interesting and encouraging. The persistent labor of Bessemer, until he learned to make steel, must, if well described, be of great value as an example to young men. And so with Whitworth, and all the others. The author possessed the best facilities for the gathering of materials for his book, and the most cursory examination will disclose how well he used them.

Mr. Bessemer's statement of the pecuniary result of his invention, or discovery, of a process of making steel is very interesting. Here is a little summary of it. He received in royalties under his patents, in fourteen years, \$5,288,740. Besides this he carried on the Sheffield Works, which, during these same fourteen years, divided among its owners, in profits, fifty-seven times the amount of the original capital. In addition to which the works had been very much enlarged out of the reserved profits. At the end of the fourteen years the works were sold out for twenty-four times the amount of the whole subscribed capital. In fact their profits for each two months equalled the entire amount of capital invested in the business. As a matter of fact the retail book business in Providence is not equal to that.

PROF. ANDREWS, of Brown University has printed for the use of students his *Minutes of Lectures upon History* at Brown University. The little book comprises ten lectures, which are for the first half year. Beginning with the definition of the term history, Prof. Andrews continues by showing its value, the proper course of study, the mode, and the helps. He then shows its divisions into ancient and modern, the dividing point being 375 A. D., following with a survey of nations, of things, and of men, from the days when the Pyramids were young—even to the days when Napoleon the First was like Prometheus bound to the rock. The little book comprises about two hundred pages, and covering such a long period it must be necessarily brief. It is in fact a book of heads, or suggestions from which the Professor speaks, or rather he fills the spaces between the sections with more or less extended talks. The little book is methodical and orderly, and will tend to relieve many of us from that chaotic confusion which, in the historical way, afflicts us.

THE publisher of these *BOOK NOTES* has nearly ready the *Trial of Congdon* for the murder of Wilcox. The arguments of course have received that careful revision from the author which the importance of the case demanded. A limited number only has been printed.

3015

